

Accessibility plan



ARTICLE 2 (non-discrimination)

The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

ARTICLE 4 (implementation of the Convention)

Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children's rights.

ARTICLE 24 (health and health services)

Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Highlands Primary School Statutory Statement

Statement:	Accessibility plan
This statement was approved:	February 2021
This statement will be reviewed:	December 2023
Governor committee responsibility:	

At Highlands Primary School our values reflect our commitment to a school where there are high expectations of everyone. Children are provided with high quality learning opportunities within a high quality learning environment so that each child attains and achieves all that they are able to. Everyone in our school community is important and included. We promote an ethos of care and trust where we hope that every member of our school community feels that they truly belong and are valued. We work hard to ensure that individual needs are recognised and shared, recognising everyone's uniqueness and success. We celebrate learning in all its forms and are committed to nurturing lifelong aspirational learners. We are a safe school, committed to improving children's confidence and self-esteem. We know that safe and happy children achieve.

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that "schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation".

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. We understand that the Local Authority will monitor the school's activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.

Objectives

Highlands Primary School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. However, we have to be aware of the challenges that two Victorian buildings present. We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school. We will make adaptations to the locations of classes/groups within the existing rooms to accommodate individual needs.

The school recognises and values parent's knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on their ability to carry out everyday activities and respects the parent's and child's right to confidentiality. We aim to build a relationship based on trust and honesty with the parents of all children so that confidential information can be shared as appropriate. This information can then be used to support the individual child.

The Highlands Primary School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable.

The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to:-

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a physical disability and/or sensory impairments, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of their duties under the Equalities Act 2010); this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or schools visits – it also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary – this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

The Highlands Primary School Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Behaviour Management Policy
- Curriculum Policies
- Emergency Plan
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy

The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this accessibility plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Governor Resource Committee.

The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Approved _____

Date _____

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary and reported on annually. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

The priorities for the Accessibility Plan for our school were identified by:

- **The Governing Body**
- **Head Teacher**
- **Inclusion Leader**
- **School Business Manager**
- **Site Manager**

A plan of the school buildings showing areas of accessibility is shown below



ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

An Access Audit was carried out by the SENCo in Mar 2017. A number of recommendations were made as follows:

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost
1.	All sections of the building have level from outside. It is possible to travel between all buildings sometimes using the playground.			

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Schedule 21: Action Plan A – Improving Physical Access

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed	Responsibility	
							PFT	School
1	Corridor	Keep corridors clear from obstructions.	Immediate	High	None	Ongoing		
2	Disabled parking	Spaces marked				Ongoing Maintenance		
3	Disabled Toilet	2 in place in Ground Floor buildings	Ongoing	Low				
4	Changing and Shower facilities	In place in Reception						

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Schedule 22: Action Plan B – Improving Curriculum Access

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed	Responsibility	
							PFT	School
1	Differentiation in Teaching	Learning Leaders to monitor quality of differentiation and provision for SEND pupils.	Ongoing	High				
2	Interventions	SENCo to audit current interventions and their success/impact on progress. Provision mapping to continue to be used across all year groups.	Ongoing	High	Resourcing costs of identified areas to develop			
3	Classrooms are organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Inclusion Lead and Learning Leaders to carry out an audit of resources/QFT to ensure that lessons are planned to meet the needs of all pupils in the class.	Ongoing	High	Possible resource implications where gaps are identified			
4	Staff training in supporting pupils with SEND – focus on key areas of need within the school: SLCN Project	SENCo and Inclusion Lead to deliver training where possible. Identify gaps in knowledge and seek external advice necessary	Ongoing	High	CPD External specialist costs			

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Schedule 23 Action Plan C – Improving the Delivery of Written Information

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed	Responsibility	
							PFT	School
1	Availability of written material in alternative formats when specifically requested	The school will make itself aware of the services available for converting written information into alternative formats. Most written information is provided through app, by email or by letter. Larger font/ different colour backgrounds can be provided on request.	Ongoing		Not applicable			
2	Review documentation on website to check accessibility for parents with English as an Additional Language	The school will review formats publicised on school website – particularly for new parents to the school, in order to ensure accessibility for parents with English as an additional language. Make a list of languages that members of staff are able to translate for.	Ongoing		Not applicable			