

## Accessibility Plan September 2019

### Objectives

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

At Wrotham Road Primary School, we have high aspirations and ambitions for our children. Our team of staff strive to create independent, articulate thinkers and learners who have the confidence, determination, resilience and drive to achieve their ambitions and realise their full potential no matter what their disabilities may be. Everyone in our school is important and included. We promote an ethos of care and trust where every member of our school community feels that they truly belong and are valued. We work hard to ensure there are no invisible children here, recognising everyone's uniqueness and success. We recognise learning in all its forms and are committed to nurturing lifelong learners. We are a safe school, committed to improving children's confidence and self-esteem. We know that safe and happy children achieve.

This plan will be published on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff and governors are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

Our 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.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

### Legislation and Guidance

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 and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010 and is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives

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".

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum</li><li>• Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided</li><li>• Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils</li></ul> |
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The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer. Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### **Action Plan**

Attached is a set of Action Plans setting out how the school will address the priorities identified in this accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 relating to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

At Wrotham Road Primary School we are committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their educational, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. 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.

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

The Action 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; 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 improvement 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 would be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

The Action Plan for physical accessibility is derived from 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 covered by this plan in order to inform the development of a new Action plan for the following period.

## Monitoring Arrangements

This document will be reviewed every 3 years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary. It will be approved by the Local Governing Board and monitored through Local Governing Board Meetings.

## Links with other policies

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

- ▪   Positive Behaviour Policy
- ▪   Emergency Plan
- ▪   Health & Safety Policy
- ▪   School Improvement Plan
- ▪   Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy

## Wrotham Road Primary School ACCESSIBILITY ACTION PLAN

### Improving Physical Access

Concern	Recommends	Timescale	Estimated cost	Date completed
Disabled Parking maintenance	None  Repair potholes	Immediate	£300	July 2019
Corridors	Keep corridors clear from obstructions	Immediate	None	July 2019
New children arrive in school with specific needs	Staff undertake training when appropriate	Ongoing	Release time and Training	As necessary when needed
Provide additional resources for pupils e.g. auxiliary aids	School to purchase additional teaching aids to support pupils	Ongoing	£1,000	As necessary when needed
Entrances	Entry phones & security systems to be updated maintained and serviced	Ongoing	£100	As necessary when needed Termly check

	External steps and paint nosing-yellow  Walkway ramps painted with red non slip paint			
Doors internal	Door closures to be checked and maintained- slow action mechanism  Door handles replaced on fire doors that need replacing	Ongoing	£500	As necessary when needed (review termly)
Lift	Lift Maintenance check	Yearly checks	£500	July 2020
Internal stairs & handrails	Contrast panels to be refreshed and painted behind handrails for visual contrast.	Ongoing	£400	As necessary when needed (review termly)

### Improving delivery of written information

Concern	Recommends	Timescale	Estimated cost	Date completed
Availability of written materials in alternative formats when specifically requested	The school will make sure of services available for converting written info into alternative formats	Ongoing	N/A	Ongoing
Review documents of the website to check accessibility for parents with EAL	The school will review formats publicised on school website – particularly new EAL parents to the school	Ongoing	N/A	Ongoing

