



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Issued: October 2019
Review: Term 1 annually
LST: AWI/CHO

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY & PLAN

1. Aims

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

1. Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
 - Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
 - Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

Our Trust schools aim to treat all pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

The plan will be made available online on the Trust website, and paper copies are available upon request. The Trust is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues. The Trust supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

The Trust 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.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#).

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.

3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim	Current good practice <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	<p>Our Trust schools offer a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.</p> <p>We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.</p> <p>Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.</p> <p>Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.</p> <p>The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.</p>	<p>Ensure all aspects of the National curriculum have equality of access for disabled pupils– science for example in Primary schools.</p> <p>Ensure all pupils regardless of any physical impairment are able to complete standardised assessments</p> <p><i>Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities.</i></p>	<p>Ensure all equipment used (Science, technology, PE, etc) in the curriculum subject teaching allow full accessibility in every school.</p> <p>Make adjustments to time allocation, give rest breaks, etc for non-statutory tests/assessments for those children that need additional support to be successful.</p> <p>Ensure exemplars used and training for staff show children and adults with a disability</p>	<p>AWI</p> <p>AWI</p> <p>AWI</p>	<p>2020 July</p> <p>2020 July</p> <p>2020 July</p>	<p>All pupils regardless of their disability are able to take part fully in learning across all NC subjects.</p> <p>PD children and others with impairment perform at least at expected level in assessments</p> <p>People with disabilities are part of school life in all its facets including curriculum materials to show diversity.</p>

<p>Improve and maintain access to the physical environment</p>	<p><i>The environment of each school in the Trust is adapted to the needs of pupils as required.</i></p> <p><i>This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ramps</i> • <i>Elevators</i> • <i>Corridor width</i> • <i>Disabled parking bays</i> • <i>Disabled toilets and changing facilities</i> • <i>Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height</i> 	<p>Improve further the physical environment of each school to aid access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westfield School, drop curbs and additional disabled parking • Norton Hill – additional disabled parking space <p>Solid doors have glass observation panel installed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somervale – remarking of disabled parking bays for clarity. • Beechen Cliff – new parking areas close to reception and allocated parking • St Dunstan’s clearer signage for disabled drivers and new disabled bay. • Writhlington improved gate access and height change to intercom • Shoscombe automated security gates and ramp to main access door • St Julian’s – renew ramps and markings • Dundry – improve access to hall – remove steps and install new access to reception class 	<p>All projects identified adjacent column are planned or underway as part of improvements across the Trust.</p>	<p>AWI</p>	<p>2020 Nov</p>	<p>All schools are better able to accommodate children and adults with a physical impairment.</p>
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- High Littleton – install stair lift.

Improve access for PD children to outdoor area – new paths etc
- Critchill Special School – new outdoor play area for community and school with accessible facilities for disabled children
- Clutton – ramp access to office
- MNP – new electronic gates and repaired lift system for access to reception.
- Welton – new EYFS area with improved access for all
- L on M – regrading of access for wheelchair access
- Hemington – gated security with automated external gate to aid access
- Trinity – paved access to ‘book nook’
- Peasedown – new build with most up-to-date legislation and access requirements
- Norton Hill primary – new build with accessibility a priority in planning

<p>Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability</p>	<p>Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal signage • Large print resources • Braille • Induction loops • Pictorial or symbolic representations 	<p>Improve further signage and markings to show those who need additional support access routes, designated parking areas, etc</p>	<p>New signage to be developed on a school-by-school basis.</p>	<p>AWI</p>	<p>July 2020</p>	<p>All visitors are clear about provision for people with physical impairment</p>
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4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every year, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by The Academy Trust Board.

5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy