

# Accessibility Plan

## Solent Junior School

“We aim for all our children to develop a love of learning that will last them a lifetime, caring for and respecting the world around them, valuing differences and broadening moral values”

*The Solent Schools, Vision, Values and Aims*

<b>Responsibility for policy review</b>	Resources Committee
<b>Date reviewed</b>	5 February 2019
<b>Review/Monitoring Cycle</b>	Three years. Next review: Spring 2022
<b>Linked Policies and Documents</b>	Health and Safety; Equality Information and Objectives; SEND Information Report & Policy; Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions
<b>Signature:</b>  Chair of Governors	<b>5 February 2019</b> Date





## 1. Aims

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

- 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 school aims to treat all its 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 school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

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

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

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.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan.

## 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 The De Curci Trust 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
<p>Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability</p>	<p>Our school offers 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 resources include examples of people with disabilities.</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><b>Short</b> – Ensure that day to day provision enables all learners to access the curriculum.</p> <p><b>Medium</b> – Ensure that the school is providing excellent resources to equip staff to do this successfully.</p> <p><b>Long</b> – all pupils make excellent progress in their learning throughout their time at The Solent Schools.</p>	<p>Audit and monitor the use of reasonable adjustment across The Solent Schools – Autumn term 2018.</p> <p>Track the progress of those pupils with a disability termly.</p> <p>Include these specific pupils in termly pupil progress meetings.</p>	<p>Senior Leadership Team</p> <p>Class Teachers</p>	<p>Development Days November 2018</p> <p>Termly pupil progress meetings</p>	<p>Excellent reasonable adjustment ensures that all pupils are able to access learning.</p> <p>Class teachers and SLT have a clear understanding about the progress of disabled pupils as they move through the school.</p> <p>Underachievement is addressed and challenged as part of the pupil progress meetings ensuring all barriers are removed.</p>

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
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	<p>The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ramps</li> <li>• Wide doorways</li> <li>• Corridor width</li> <li>• Disabled parking bays</li> <li>• Disabled toilets and changing facilities</li> <li>• Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height</li> <li>• Disabled toilet and shower facility</li> </ul>	<p><b>Short:</b> Ensure that the environment is being kept in a way that is conducive with free movement around school for all pupils and staff.</p> <p><b>Medium:</b> Audit the needs of current pupils to ensure that the environment has been suitably adapted.</p> <p><b>Long:</b> Ensure all adaptations are proactive rather than reactive in all circumstances. <i>(This is sometimes limited as a result of the information received on application)</i></p>	<p>Set up weekly site walks with site manager, bursar and head of school (executive headteacher to attend routinely)</p> <p>Teachers to discuss with parents and carers during parent appointments.</p> <p>Head of School to conference pupil to gauge their opinion about accessibility.</p> <p>When a pupil applies to join the school, who has a disability – Senco to set up pupil site visit to assess needs and take actions (wherever possible) prior to start date.</p>	<p>Site manager, HoS, Bursar and EHT.</p> <p>Teachers</p> <p>Head of School</p>	<p>End of Sept 2018 when new site manager in post.</p> <p>Ongoing termly at parent appointments</p> <p>Ongoing termly pupil conferencing whilst at the school.</p> <p>Within 5 working days of application / notification of the disability HoS to make contact with the family.</p>	<p>Any concerns regarding accessibility to be raised immediately and addressed – comprehensive minutes are kept at each site walk and photographs taken – at the beginning of a new site walk, previous discussions are revisited and actions taken discussed.</p> <p>Parents and pupils have a means to discuss positively about a pupil’s current needs – school are able to action immediately.</p> <p>All actions relating to environmental changes are proactive rather than reactive.</p>

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<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"> <li>• Internal signage</li> <li>• Large print resources</li> <li>• Braille</li> <li>• Induction loops</li> <li>• Pictorial or symbolic representations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Short:</b> Ensure that throughout the school signage &amp; communication systems are highly accessible for all.</p> <p>Senco to update all staff on any pupil who uses specific resources so that they are able to provide these.</p> <p><b>Medium:</b> Termly review of environment in direct response to any disability plans that are live at that time.</p> <p><b>Long:</b> Ensure that permanent signage and equipment is accessible and equipment is routinely serviced.</p>	<p>Set up twice half termly staff meeting learning walks.</p> <p>Include user friendly signage in the 'excellent learning environment' checklist.</p> <p>Liaise with service users with a disability via annual audits noting feedback.</p>	<p>Head of School</p> <p>Class Teachers</p> <p>Learning Support</p> <p>Senco</p> <p>Executive Headteacher</p>	<p>To be set up for the rest of the year by October half term.</p> <p>Prior to a pupil starting school – within 5 days</p> <p>Before the end of each term on a rolling basis.</p>	<p>Excellent environmental resource ensures that all pupils and adults feel that communication is strong.</p> <p>User's views and opinions are taken into account and the responsive approach quickly eradicates any barriers that may have arisen.</p>





#### **4. 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 body.



## Appendix 1: Accessibility audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of storeys	All ground floor – there is a set of stairs in the central corridor (7 steps) – this splits the north from the south side of school. There are alternative routes around school via external ramps	If a pupil or member of staff joins who is unable to access any areas due to these steps – careful thought will be taken into where to locate them so that they are not at all disadvantaged. There would not need to be any alterations to the fabric, this would involve assessing building use and locating bases where required.	Head of School.	When necessary – within half term of notice point.
Corridor access	All corridors are wide and have no obstacles for negotiation.	Annual reminder to be sent out to all staff by Head of School about keeping corridors clear.	Head of School.	End of September annually. Ongoing check during weekly site walk.
Lifts	None			
Parking bays	There is no disabled parking bay provided in the school car park as the school car park gates are locked before the pupils arrive for safety purposes – there is no pedestrian access via this route when pupils are on site.	If a pupil or staff member joins the school who requires a disabled parking space then this would need to be actioned prior to their arrival. This person would also need to arrive earlier to school to avoid being locked into the car park.	School Bursar Site Manager	Ongoing.



Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Entrances	All external doorways are wide enough to allow room for a frame or wheelchair to enter and exit	Annual reminder to be sent out to all staff by Head of School about keeping all doorways clear.  Assessment of site internal doorways would need to be made bespoke to the arrival of a pupil or staff member with a disability	Head of School.	End of September annually.  Ongoing check during weekly site walk.
Ramps	The site is accessible via the use of ramps or dipped curbs.	None		
Toilets	There is no specific disabled toilet available for use by pupils, staff or visitors	Investigate whether there is a practical adjustment that could be made to provide a disabled facility.  Find out if this has been investigated before and what the outcome was.	School Bursar	Easter 2019



Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Reception area	<p>There is a hearing loop in the entrance area. A ramp at the West entrance provides access to the main entrance when the school is open for picking up and dropping off.</p> <p>During the school day there is no disability friendly entrance in use – the office team have to walk out and unlock the Western entrance so that the wheelchair can enter the site.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>Future CIF bid to focus upon making the entrance to the school safer and to provide better access for all users, especially those that are disabled.</p>	Executive Headteacher	September 20



Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Internal signage	Permanent signs are all printed in a large font with use of visually friendly colour and fonts. Much signage has symbols or photographs to accompany wording.	Ensure that learning walks during staff meetings and development days regularly focus upon the development and inclusion of internal signage to make the school accessible for all.	Heads of School	At least once a term each term.
Emergency escape routes	All emergency escape routes used within school are disability friendly – they are wide enough for a chair and a frame.	Annual reminder to be sent out to all staff by Head of School about keeping all emergency exit doorways clear.  This has not been identified as a problem at all during site walks and staff are very aware of this.	Head of School	Annual reminder to be sent out.

