

# ACCESSIBILITY POLICY



## Northgate Primary School

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## **Introduction**

Northgate Primary School welcomes a diversity of pupils and aims to offer a truly inclusive learning experience and a broad and balanced curriculum for each and every one of our pupils, no matter their needs. We want all pupils to enjoy coming to school, to feel safe and included and to be able to access appropriate challenge so that they are able to achieve their full potential. The purpose of this plan is to show how Northgate Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

## **Definition of Disability**

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

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

## **Legal Background**

Under the Equality Act 2010 all schools must have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation including the DDA. The effect of the laws is the same as in the past, meaning that 'Schools cannot lawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation'.

## **Statement of intent**

This plan outlines the proposals of the governing body of Northgate to increase access to education for students with disabilities in the three areas required by the planning duties in the Equality Act 2010.

1. Increasing the extent to which students with disabilities can participate in the school curriculum;
2. Improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which students with disabilities can take advantage of education and associated services;
3. Improving information delivery to students with disabilities.

## **Plan Availability:**

The school makes the Accessibility Plan available in the following ways:

- A copy is posted on the school's website
- Paper copies are available from the front office

## **Review and Evaluation:**

The plan is valid for three years 2019-22. It is reviewed annually.

The governing body also recognises its responsibilities towards employees with disabilities and will:

- Monitor recruitment procedures to ensure that persons with disabilities are provided with equal opportunities;
- Ensure that employees with disabilities are supported with special provision to ensure that they can carry out their work effectively without barriers;
- Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

## Accessibility Plan

***Aim: Increasing the extent to which students with disabilities can participate in the school curriculum;***

**Current Good Practice:**

- Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.
- We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.
- Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.
- Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.
- The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.

	Objectives	Actions	Outcome/ success criteria	When	Who
Short Term	To continue to improve the accessibility and range of APPs and programmes to support children with disabilities.	Teachers to be given opportunities to watch. Outstanding practitioner use computing in lessons. SENDCo to work alongside digit lead and Leverstock.	Evidence of ICT equipment being used in lessons effectively to support all children.	Summer 2019	SENDCo Digit Lead STL
Medium term	To offer gross motor interventions and sensory needs for specific children to help them to access the PE curriculum.	Training for staff in order to create and establish a gross motor group.	Established a Gross Motor group with assessment which identifies and show progression.	2019/20	SENDCo
Long term	To continue to ensure all staff are fully aware of supporting children with a range of disabilities.	Staff training	Support sheets available for all staff. Specific training for key staff.	Summer 2020	SENDCo

***Aim: Improving and maintaining access to the physical environment***

**Current Good Practice:**

The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required.

This includes:

- Ramps.
- Corridor width.
- Disabled parking bay
- Disabled toilet and changing facilities
- Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height

	Objectives	Actions	Outcome/ success criteria	When	Who
Short term	To ensure all disabled pupils and staff can be safely evacuated.	Ensure Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEP) are available for everyone with	All pupils are safely evacuated in the event of a fire	Ongoing (when needed)	SENDCo BM

		disabilities which inhibit their ability to take part in standard evacuation procedure.	All members of staff are aware of the evacuation procedures for pupils, staff and members of the wider community with disabilities.		
	To improve the visibility of yellow lines	Regularly monitor all yellow lines on playground to help with visibility.	Yellow lines visible	Ongoing (when needed)	Site manager
<b>Medium term</b>	To improve accessibility of outdoor classroom	To get ramp for outdoor classroom	Ramp in place	Summer 2019	Site manager
<b>Long term</b>	To provide full access to teaching spaces to enable all learners to access the curriculum	Hall doors to all be double access	Wheelchairs can access the hall from all doors	Summer 2019	Site manager

***Aim: Improving information delivery to students with disabilities***

**Current Good Practice:**

Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:

- Internal signage eg widgets on room doors
- Large print resources available when needed
- Induction loops available when needed
- Pictorial or symbolic representations

	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Outcome/ success criteria</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Who</b>
Short term	To ensure that all staff are aware of necessary ways to communicate information to pupils with disabilities	File with information in staffroom, medical room, kitchen. Staff are aware of Widgit symbols and have received training on using Communication in Print. Use visual timetables.	All staff including TAs, MSAs and administrative staff are aware of the specific needs of pupils. Pictures of SEND available	Autumn 17	SENDCo
	To ensure parents are fully aware of range of support groups available	Display pamphlets which are available at the front desk to direct parents and visitors to local support networks eg HAND, local offer	Parents are available for support groups	Ongoing	SENDCo
Medium Term	To ensure that the school website is fully accessible to parents and pupils with disabilities	Audit of school website Update school website	All parents and pupils are able to access the school website	Summer 2019	SENDCo
Long term	To ensure all parents can access information about the school	Have school prospectus available in different languages.	Parents can access information about the school	Summer 2020	SENDCo

