



# ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

# Accessibility Plan

## Vision Statement

*We, the staff and governors, aspire to ensure that all our students, irrespective of ability and regardless of anyone's doubts, achieve their potential in full.*

## Context

This plan seeks to address the statutory requirements of the Equality Act 2010 (which replaces the Disability Discrimination Act 1995) and to further the aims of our vision by continuing to improve all aspects of the physical environment of the school site and other resources so that all disabled students can take full advantage of the education and associated opportunities provided by the School.

## Definition (Equality Act 2010)

"A person has a disability 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 carry out normal day to day activities"

Over the past decade the school has put into place the following developments:

- Adapted Minibus purchased.
- Disabled car parking bays provided at the front of the school.
- 2 Evacuation chairs purchased.
- Training in the use of the evacuation chair is provided for identified staff.
- Additional hand rails provided to external grounds.
- DDA compliant stair nosing fitted.
- Enhanced fire alarm system for students with impaired hearing installed.
- Further enhancements to fire alarm system / magnetic door closures to corridor door fitted
- Replacement of blinds throughout school classrooms to improve visibility of interactive white boards and projected images.
- Stannah stair lift installed to provide access to the conference room facilities
- New build main reception includes disabled access via press button electric doors and ramped entrance.
- Additional disabled access toilet facilities
- A designated ground floor nurture class
- Disabled access changing facilities
- Wheelchair accessible / adjustable workstation - food technology lab

In the current academic year, the school has invested in specialist education software to assist those students who require additional support during examinations and external access has been reviewed and improved including the replacement of stairs and steps with ramps, particularly around the playgrounds.

## **Maintenance and renewal**

To ensure that these developments do not fall into disrepair all improvements made under this Accessibility Plan are included into the regular checks of the Premises Manager.

## **Individual needs**

Priorities set out in this plan may change to accommodate the changing needs of individuals, as advised by the SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) and the Head of Pastoral Care (for students) and line managers (for staff).

### **Specific priorities include:**

- To continue review the external site facilities
- To review the accessibility of the student reception area for visitors.
- To continue to review the School's responsibilities in this area under the provisions of the Equality Act.

### **In addition to these priorities the school will:**

- Consider making relevant switches, alarm buttons and door handles at wheelchair height.
- Provide on-going training for the use of the evacuation chairs on site.

## **Curriculum delivery**

The Curriculum and SEND Policy make clear the School's approach to the delivery of the curriculum. The School actively seeks the support and advice of all relevant services to ensure the curriculum is accessible to all students. Relevant modifications to the delivery of the curriculum are negotiated on an individual basis as required.

## **Associated policies and plans**

This plan should be read in conjunction with other relevant documents including:

- Single Equalities Policy
- Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Policy
- Curriculum Policies

## **Review and Evaluation**

This plan has the status of a policy of the Governing Body and will be reviewed annually. It will be monitored and evaluated by the Director of Finance and Resources. The plan was last reviewed on **30 July 2024**.

## Access Audit

Area	Description	Actions to be taken	Person Responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of storeys - 2	Two lifts and one chair lifts in place	Routinely maintained	Premises Manager	N/A
Corridor access	Adequate access, however restrictive at break	Corridors monitored at peak times	Duty rota in place	N/A
Lifts	Two lifts in place	Routinely maintained	Premises Manager	N/A
Parking Bays	Two disabled spaces	Routinely maintained	Premises Manager	
Entrances	No steps to main entrances and automatic doors in place	Routinely maintained	Premises Manager	N/A
Ramps	Student entrance adjacent to the bus terminal  Humanities, English and PE entrances all have slopped access	Routinely maintained	Premises Manager	N/A
Toilets	Disabled Toilet Male Toilet Female Toilet Separate student Toilets	Routinely maintained – planned improvements to accessibility – student boys	Premises Manager	Complete
Reception Area	Ground Floor, level access	Ensure area remains free from hazards	Receptionist	On-going
Internal Signage	Clear signage in place	Routine maintenance	Premises Manager	N/A

Emergency Escape Routes	Emergency Routes and Doors	Ensure roots and doors are clear and free from hazard	All staff	On-going
Playgrounds	The main school playground (tennis courts)	Designated ramp for wheel chair access	All staff	On-going