



Accessibility Plan 2016- 2017

Section 1: Vision statement

It is a requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for schools to have an accessibility plan.

Each child who joins our school community will be welcomed and valued regardless of sex, race, belief, physical disability or learning difficulty. This accessibility plan focuses on a wide range of disability associated with pupils with severe learning difficulties and profound and multiple learning difficulties. At Riverbank Academy pupil achievement is celebrated in a pupil-centred teaching and learning environment and excellent achievement at school enables pupils to be as independent as possible so that they make the most of opportunities when they leave school.

The purpose of the accessibility plan is to ensure that all pupils have access to education in the three areas required by the planning duties in the Equality Act 2010.

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

The LGB and MAT 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 as appropriate to ensure that they can carry out their work effectively without barriers.
- Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

Definition of disability under the Equality Act 2010

You're disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

Section 2: Aims and objectives

Our aims are to:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment
- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils

The table below sets out how the school will achieve these aims.

Aim	Current good practice	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Curriculum is subject to ongoing review to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils	To ensure pupils continue to make excellent progress towards challenging objectives	Ensure the effectiveness of the curriculum models. Update the curriculum statement, policies and procedures to ensure curriculum is accessible to all learners	DL	Reviewed annually
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	New building opened in Summer 2015 was specifically designed to meet the needs of all learners	There are no access issues although there are plans to improve an outside play area on Keystage 3 for complex students. Improved access to Forest School for all students.	Continue to review all areas to ensure that we can meet the needs of a changing cohort	DL	Ongoing
Improve the delivery of written information to pupils	Use of ICT to support pupils access to information symbols and communications aids on all classroom doors. A small number of pupils can read. Most pupils communicate using augmentative systems such as Makaton, PECS and communicate and print.	We are constantly reviewing the effectiveness of communication strategies across the school	Complete a communication audit and update policy so that all pupils improve their communication skills	JS/RW	

Section 3: Access audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Corridor access	Corridors are wide with parking bays for wheelchairs and standing frames	Ensure pupil equipment does not block corridor	DL	Ongoing
Lifts	Service level agreement in place for maintenance	Review service annually	Site Services	Ongoing
Parking bays	Disabled parking bays marked	Done	Site Services	Ongoing
Entrances	Automatic front doors, enclosed lobby	None required	Site services	Ongoing
Hoists	Ensure they are available for those that need them	Ensure service every 6 months	Site Services / RW	Ongoing
Toilets	All hygiene areas have hoists. Toilets have disabled access and alarms	None required	Site Services	Ongoing
Reception area	Accessible to wheelchair users	None required	Site Services	On going

Internal signage	Large signs in place	None required	DL	Ongoing
Emergency escape routes	Fire evacuation plan in place	Ensure weekly testing of system and maintenance	Facilities Manager / DL	On going

Policy needs reviewing annually

Next review September 2017