

Accessibility Plan 2019

For approval February 2020

To be reviewed annually by SLT February 2021

It is a requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for schools to have an accessibility plan. All young people who join Oaklands School are 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, Autistic Spectrum Conditions and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties.

At Oaklands School we understand that our students have a wide range of learning needs and styles. We deliver a broad and balanced curriculum by individually and precisely tailoring it to each individual's needs. This is based on initial and ongoing assessment and the setting of priorities with families and individual students. We believe that all of our students will make progress and become more independent.

At Oaklands our curriculum is designed to prepare our students for adult life as independent, confident, resilient and happy people who are able to communicate their needs opinions and preferences within their own individual potential, participating fully as a valued member of society.

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

- Monitor our recruitment procedures to ensure that people with disabilities are provided with equal opportunities.
- Strive to actively recruit employees with disabilities whilst ensuring that they are supported with appropriate provision to ensure they can carry out their work effectively.
- Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

Definition of disability 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.

Development and Review

The plan will be on the school website and reviewed annually by the leadership team to ensure it is effective.

Meeting our Aims and objectives

Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability

Our curriculum is subject to ongoing review to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils. Rigorous monitoring of Medium term planning and quality assurance by senior leaders ensures the curriculum is accessible to all learners

Improve and maintain access to the physical environment

Our new building opened in September 2018 and was specifically designed to meet the needs of all learners. There are no access issues

Improve the delivery of written information to pupils

A small number of pupils can read. Most pupils communicate using augmentative systems such as Makaton and PECS, some are non-verbal. All information issued by the school aims to be user friendly. Newsletters incorporate photographs. The school provides training for staff to a high level in a range of communication methods. Support for pupils with visual impairment is provided by the local authority which includes modifying printed materials into a format to meet the needs of individual pupils who also have a visual impairment.

Section 3: Access Audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken/Date if required	Person responsible
Building is on 2 floors	Stairs are kept clean, tidy and free from obstruction at all times	Maintain and ensure access/ Ongoing	Site Team
Corridor access	Corridors are wide with space for wheelchairs and standing frames	Ensure pupil equipment does not block corridor. No loose items in corridors/ Ongoing	Headteacher
3 Lifts	Service agreement in place for maintenance	Serviced 3x annually	Site Team
Parking bays	Disabled parking bays marked. Banks person ensures parking guidelines are adhered to.	None required	Site Team
Entrances	Automatic front doors/enclosed lobby are accessible to wheelchair users	None required	Headteacher
Hoists	PMLD rooms have hoists All hygiene areas have hoists. Toilets have disabled access and alarms	Ensure serviced every 6 months	Site Team
Internal signage	Large signs in place	None required	Headteacher
Emergency escape routes	Fire evacuation plan in place	Ensure weekly testing of system, Termly fire drills and maintenance	Site Team

Signed by Chair of Committee:

Print Name:

Date: