

Introduction

School name: Whittingham C of E Primary School Accessibility Plan (DRAFT)

3-year period covered by the plan:

The School has just become a Primary School in September.

Plan agreed: Initially -February 2016. Finalised July 2016.

Plan Reviewed September 2016. To be reviewed 2019.

Lead member of staff: SEND co-ordinator / Headteacher Belinda Athey.

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled pupils, under Part 4 of the DDA:

1. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
2. to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
3. to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Proprietor/Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
- b) improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
- c) improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary and reported on annually. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

The School's Context

We are a small rural Primary School whose one level building is all on one site and all classrooms lead off the main school hall. There are no separate classroom buildings. During the period of building work each class can be accessed through the main entrance. There is also another exit/ entry point through the Early Years Classroom. In the case of a fire all current entry / exit points will be made safe and the site manager of the building site and the Headteacher will be responsible for the safe exit of children to the allocated fire safety collection point.

The School's Aims

'Hand in hand together we will become resilient, respectful and responsible citizens of our community and the wider world.'

We are working within a national framework for educational inclusion provided by:

- Inclusive School (DfES 0774/2001)
- SEN & Disability Act **2001**
- The **SEN Revised Code of Practice 2002**
- The Disability Discrimination **Act (amended for school 2001)**
- Code of Practice for Schools (Disability Rights Commission)
- ISI inspection

The priorities for the Accessibility Plan for our school were identified by a planning group who consisted of:

- **SEND Governor – John Rutherford**
- **Headteacher – Belinda Athey**
- **Chair of Governors – Steph Tuczemskyi**

1. Planning Templates 1-3 starting points

1A: The purpose and direction of the school's plan:

Our school aims to welcome all children and adults and to enable them to experience a welcoming and inclusive school where individual needs are met and catered for. We are aware that accessibility to our site needs to be managed carefully during this period of exciting change and have made plans accordingly to do so. All copies of Risk assessments and exit plans are available in the office.

1B: Information from pupil data and school audit

Whittingham C of E Primary School is a small, yet vibrant and forward thinking P School. There are currently 88 children on role including Nursery. We are currently judged as a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2014) and outstanding (SIAMS 2014).

1C: Views of those consulted during the development of the plan

Originally our group met to discuss an Accessibility Plan in February 2016 and it was agreed that a draft copy should be worked upon due to building works. The draft was later agreed with the proviso that the group was to meet in September once the building work has been completed. This version was completed September 2016. This will be reviewed September 2019.

2. The main priorities in the school's plan

2A: Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum

Our curriculum is planned so that all pupils including pupils with disabilities can participate in the school curriculum. We constantly adapt and change our provision so that in despite of our current building works we are accessible.

2B: Improving the physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services:

We have recently enhanced our school site with our new extension. We also use specialist sport provision at Willowburn Sports Centre and Whittingham Memorial Hall where applicable.

2C: Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information that is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled:

This is something that an action group are addressing. We have also looked at the accessibility of information on our website with Governors and this was reviewed with children, staff and parents during Summer Term 2016.

3: Making it happen

3A: Management, coordination and implementation

- The planning process – Meetings with Governors, email communication and weekly meeting with Chair of Governors.
- Coordination – BA - lead
- Other policies and plans – See policy file and policy section on website
- Implementation- immediately

3B: Getting hold of the school's plan

The school might consider:

- how it makes the plan available;
- whether the plan is available on the school website;
- making the plan available in different formats;
- ensuring the plan is readable. The school may need to consider: jargon/acronyms; typeface/font size; how easy it is to find your way around.