

# Accessibility plan 2022-2025

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### 1. Aims and values

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
- o Improve the physical environment of the academy to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- o Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

Our Trust has developed a vision, mission, a set of aims and values that are consistent with the Equality Act 2010: -

- Our <u>vision</u> is to inspire all (children, colleagues, parents) to be happy and become the best they can possibly be.
- Our <u>mission</u> is to accelerate progress and educational attainment, build effective social skills, broaden experiences for children in order to raise aspirations for all on the journey 'towards better outcomes'.
- Our academy <u>aims</u> to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.
- Our values are to:
  - o Respect we will treat all with respect.
  - Excellence we will strive for excellence in all that we do and drive up standards and deliver outstanding teaching and support.
  - Enthusiasm we will enthusiastically encourage, support and help all to be the best they can possibly be.
  - Working Together we will work together and with partners, parents and the community to inspire our pupils and each other.
  - Belief we believe that every child has intrinsic value, is capable of changing and growing and is naturally motivated to learn.
  - Safe we will deliver a learning environment that is positive, happy and where children feel safe and able to learn.
  - Resilience we will be innovative and adaptable to change to meet the needs of our pupils and the development of our colleagues.

Our Trust is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues. We have a commitment to support any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

### 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of <u>schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010</u> and the Department for Education (DfE) <u>guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010</u>.

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the <u>Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice</u>, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

### 3. Action Plan (see Appendix 1)

### 4. Policy availability and raising a concern

The plan will be made available online on the academy website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our Trust's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, the complaints procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

## 5. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every **3** years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

### 6. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

# Appendix 1 – action plans

# 1. Aim – To increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability

# Current good practice

- Our academy offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils
- We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum
- Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities
- 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 make sure it meets the needs of all pupils

Objective	Action	Person responsible	Completion data	Success criteria
To ensure that pupils are given the opportunity to learn about and discuss a range of needs and disabilities	<ol> <li>PSHE Lead to review curriculum content</li> <li>Class teachers to deliver lessons on: -         <ul> <li>'differences'</li> <li>How pupils can support others</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Class teachers (through planning) PSHE lead	Ongoing	Through discussion and in their interactions with others, pupils demonstrate that they have an understanding of the needs and disabilities of others around them and appreciate ways in which they can support peers with needs and disabilities.
To ensure that the curriculum is accessible to all pupils.	Leaders to review the use of resources and consider whether they are used effectively to support all pupils.	Headteacher SENCO Class teachers	Ongoing as and when the need arises	<ul> <li>Curriculum resources are available to support specific needs.</li> <li>All pupils are involved fully in the curriculum.</li> </ul>
To ensure that staff receive training and knowledge to support children with specific needs.	Appropriate training to be sought and provided as required for specific disabilities and or medical conditions.	SENCO in conjunction with appropriate outside agencies	Ongoing	Staff are confident in fully supporting pupils with specific needs.

# 2. Aim – To improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability and their parents

Current good practice

Our academy uses a range of communication methods to make sure information is accessible. This includes: internal signage, large print resources, visual timetables, pictorial or symbolic representations

Objective	Action	Person Responsible	Completion date	Success Criteria
To ensure that	1. Staff to review the information to be shared	Headteacher	Ongoing	All communication is
relevant information	and consider whether it will be accessible to	Class teachers		accessible to all.
is shared effectively	all stakeholders. Make changes as required	Academy office		
with pupils, parents	2. Governors to undertake a review of the			
and the wider	effectiveness of communication			
community	3. Headteacher/SENCo to monitor the format			
	and content of information provided to			
	ensure that it is as accessible as possible.			
To maintain and/or	1. Undertake an audit to ensure that the website	Academy office	Ongoing	Information is readily
strive to improve	and other information sources are clear and	Headteacher		available and in a format
communication with	as user-friendly as possible.			which is accessible to all
all pupils and the	2. Make changes as required.			
wider community.				
Parents to be aware	1. SENCo to ensure information is readily	SENCO	Ongoing	Parents are signposted
of the local agencies	available for parents.			to the help they need
they can access to	2. SENCo and other staff to sign post/refer			quickly.
support them and	parents as needed.			
their children.				
To establish and	1. SENCo and Headteacher to liaise with key	Headteacher	Ongoing	Links with external
maintain close	personnel, e.g. SENCo, Physiotherapist,	SENCO		agencies are established
liaisons with outside	Occupational Therapist, school nursing team,			and effective.
agencies for pupils	Educational Psychologists, SEMH Team, ALST,			
with ongoing	EP's Virtual School for Sensory Support, Early			
accessibility needs.	Help and practitioners, parents etc.			

# 3. Aim – To improve and maintain access to the physical environment

Current good practice

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

- Corridor width
- Disabled parking bays
- Disabled toilets and changing facilities
- Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height

Objective Acti	on Person Respon	sible Completion date	Success Criteria
To ensure that academy decoration, displays and colour schemes are appropriate for all pupils.  When selecting colour needs of children with e.g. epilepsy, or with vare considered.	s/patterns, the SENCO medical conditions, Headteacher	Ongoing and reviewed annually	<ul> <li>Staff know how displays and colours can affect individuals</li> <li>Colours/patterns are chosen appropriately.</li> </ul>