

Otley and Witnesham Federated Primary Schools

Accessibility Policy and Plan 2014 - 2017

Introduction

Schools and LAs need to carry out accessibility planning for disabled pupils. These are the same duties as previously existed under the Disability Discrimination Act and have been replicated in the **Equality Act 2010** Part 5A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA).

This **Accessibility Plan** and the accompanying action plan sets out how the governing body will improve equality of opportunity for disabled people. The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the DDA to cover education, so since 2002 the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled pupils under part 4 of the DDA.

- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for reasons related to their disability
- To make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage including potential adjustments which may be needed in the future.
- To plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

Definition of Disability

As defined by the DDA - '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'

This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff, parents and visitors to the school. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:

- Improve access to the physical environment of the school. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as able-bodied pupils (if a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA). This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs and school visits.
- Improve the delivery of information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

The plan will be reviewed and adjusted annually and a new plan developed every three years. Ofsted will monitor the plan as part of their evaluation cycle.

We acknowledge that there is a need for ongoing training and awareness raising for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- National Curriculum policies
- Equal Opportunities policy
- Health and Safety (including Educational Visits)
- Special Needs and Disability Policy (SEND)
- Behaviour and Discipline Policy
- School Development Plan
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- School Brochure

At our school we are committed to establishing equality for all pupils, their parents/carers, staff and other users of the school. It is the responsibility of the whole school community to implement this policy in a manner which promotes the inclusive ethos of our school.

C Tomany (Senco)

