



Birklands Primary School Accessibility Plan –2016 to 2019

Vision Statement:

Under the Equality Act 2010 schools should have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that “schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation”.

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The Accessibility Plan is listed as a statutory document of the Department for Education’s guidance on statutory policies for schools. The Plan must be reviewed every three years and approved by the Governing Body.

The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, an individual or the Head. At Birklands Primary School the Plan will form part the School Development Plan and will be monitored by the headteacher and evaluated by the relevant Governors’ events. The current Plan will be appended to this document.

At Birklands Primary School we are committed to working together to provide an inspirational and exciting learning environment where all children can develop an enthusiasm for life-long learning. We believe that children should feel happy, safe and valued so that they gain a respectful, caring attitude towards each other and the environment both locally and globally.

1) The Birklands Primary School Accessibility Plan has been developed and drawn up based upon information supplied by the Local Authority, MAT, and consultations with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school. The document will be used to advise other school planning documents and policies and will be reported upon annually in respect of progress and outcomes. The intention is to provide a projected plan for a three-year period ahead of the next review date.

2) The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school’s Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. We understand that the MAT will monitor the school’s activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.

3) Birklands Primary School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

4) The Birklands Primary School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given time frame and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to:-

- 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 are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of their duties under the Equalities Act 2010); this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits—it also covers the provision of specialist or **equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve and maintain access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary—this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable time frame;
- Improve the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

5) The Birklands Primary School Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

6) Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

7) This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Behaviour Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Emergency Plan
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Prospectus
- Academy Improvement Plan
- Special Educational Needs Policy

8) The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this accessibility plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

9) Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

10) The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

11) The school will work in partnership with the MAT in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.

12) The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Approved by Tim Gibbon

Chair of Governors



Date: 28.09.16

Autumn Term 2016

Birklands Primary School Accessibility Plan 2016 – 2019 Improving the Physical Access

<p>Facilities already in place</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dropped kerb either side of main vehicle entrance. 2. Main entrance has wide doors for wheelchair access. 3. Disabled toilets and shower 4. Ramps on the main entrance 5. Rails on all stairs 	<p>Areas to develop</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mirrors and demarcation of white areas on hand rails in shower rooms 2. Hoist system to be checked 3. Access to the top floor
--	---

Improving the Curriculum Access

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum	Undertake an audit of staff training requirements	All teachers are able to more fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs with regards to accessing the	As required	Increase in access to the National Curriculum
Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum	Review the specific needs for pupils living with a disability, in terms of basic daily living skills, relationships and future aspirations.	Teachers are aware of the relevant issues and can ensure that this group has equality of access to life preparation learning. The use of other professional partners has been	As required	
All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils	Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation	All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements	As required	Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils
Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases	Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual	As required	Increase in access to the National Curriculum

<p>Training for Awareness Raising of Disability Issues</p>	<p>Provide training for governors, staff, pupils and parents Discuss perception of issues with staff to determine the current status of school</p>	<p>Whole school community aware of issues relating to Access</p>	<p>Spring 2017</p>	<p>Society will benefit by a more inclusive school and social environment</p>
--	--	--	--------------------	---

Improving the Delivery of Written Information

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parent's in alternative formats and available website	Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it	All school information available for all	As required	Delivery of school information to parents and the local community
Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with visual impairment	Get advice from MAT/ LA on alternative formats and use of IT software to produce customized	All school information available for all	As required	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual difficulties improved
Availability of written material in alternative formats	The school will make itself aware of the services available through the LA for converting written information into alternative formats.	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes	As required	Delivery of information to disabled pupils improved