

Accessibility Plan

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**Policy Reviewed and Adopted by
Governing Body:**

Date of Next Review: November 2024
Responsible Officer: Head teacher, Andrew Wright

Introduction

Moss Side Primary School is committed to ensuring that every child should have access to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. This should take account of their individual strengths and needs and should allow each child to fulfil their potential.

Under the Equality Act 2010 (which supersedes existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act) all schools/academies should have an Accessibility Plan. The effect of this law means that “schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation”. The Accessibility Plan is also a statutory document of the Department for Education’s guidance on statutory policies for schools.

Purpose of this policy

It is the duty of school to have an accessibility plan in place with the overall aim of:

1. increased access to the curriculum for disabled pupils;
2. improvements to the physical environment to increase access to education and associated services at the academies for disabled pupils; and
3. improvements in the provision of information for disabled pupils where it is provided in writing for non-disabled recipients.

Linked Documentation

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Equality Act 2010
- Equalities Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

Roles and Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the head teacher to ensure this plan is reviewed at least annually and approved by the Governing Body. The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, or an individual in school such as the Health and Safety Lead.

Definitions

The Equality Act 2010 states:

- A ‘disabled student’ is defined as someone who ‘has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities’.
- Discrimination: A responsible body discriminates against a disabled person if:
 - a) For reasons that relate to their disability, it treats them less favorably than it treats or would treat others to whom that reason does not or would not apply.
 - b) It cannot show that the treatment in question is justified.
- Reasonable steps: The duty to take reasonable steps (to ensure that there is no discrimination intended as an ‘anticipatory’ duty and does not simply apply once an individual student presents him or herself.

Related Procedures

The school will plan for all three main requirements of the planning duty with the aim of ensuring the following:

Improving the physical environment of the academy to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of our facilities, education and associated services

The physical environment covers the whole of the academy building and external footprint and includes:-

- All learning spaces
- All building entrances and exits (including emergency escape routes)
- All internal and external doors
- All corridor spaces
- Internal and external steps and stairs

- Toilet facilities
- Lighting
- Ventilation
- Internal and external surfaces
- Signage
- Furniture

It is the duty of school to provide access to all of the above through provision of physical aids where necessary e.g. ramp, handrail, adapted toilet, adjustable lighting, blinds.

Physical aids may also be required to access education through provision of specialist equipment e.g. enlarged computer screens and keyboards, concept keyboards, switches, specialist desks and chairs, induction loops and way-finding systems and portable aids as required to support specific needs.

At Moss Side Primary School the provision of a special equipment or extra assistance for individual needs will be made through individual planning e.g. SEND framework, and where needed, through the planning duty which applies to all schools and academies due to their individual nature. The planning duty relates to the provision of aids or services in terms of the population (and future population) of the school.

Moss Side Primary School is a 2 storey building. The ground floor houses teaching, recreation and lunchtime spaces. The upper floor, accessed by stairs, is for office and staff space. The building is fully accessible via a ramp at the rear of the building and equipped with a disabled toilet. All classrooms are equipped with resources to enable individualisation and differentiation.

Increasing the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access and participate in the school's curriculum.

This strand of the planning duty will help to improve access to a full, broad and balanced curriculum. It covers a range of elements including ensuring that teaching and learning is accessible through school and classroom organisation and support, especially deployment of staff, timetabling, curriculum options and staff information and training.

Improving the availability of accessible written information.

This part of the duty covers planning to make information normally provided by the school in writing to its pupils – such as handouts, timetables, textbooks, information about academy events – available to disabled pupils. This will include alternative formats such as Braille, audio tape and large print and also the provision of information orally, through lip speaking or sign language, or through a recognised symbol system or ICT. This information should also be made available within a reasonable time-frame and take account of the pupils' disabilities and pupils' and parents' preferred formats.

Overall aims of the Accessibility Plan

As Moss Side Primary School aims to include all pupils, including those with disabilities, in the full life of the school. We also employ the following strategies to achieve this:

- Having high expectations of all pupils.
- Finding ways in which all pupils can take part in the full curriculum including sport, music, and drama.
- Planning out-of-school activities including all school trips and excursions so that pupils with disabilities are able to participate fully.
- Establishing an admissions policy and criteria which does not discriminate against pupils with disabilities or treat them unfairly;
- Devising teaching strategies that will remove barriers to learning and participation for pupils with disabilities.
- Raising awareness of disability amongst school staff (teaching and nonteaching) through a programme of training.
- Ensuring that our library and reading books provided positive images of people with disabilities.

Monitoring and Review

The school recognises that monitoring is essential to ensure that pupils with disabilities are not being disadvantaged, and that monitoring leads to action planning.

The plan will be reviewed annually by the head teachers and members of the appropriate working party.

Appendices

Appendix 1- Accessibility Plan 23-24

Appendix 1- Accessibility Plan November 2023-2024

What	Why (duty)	How	Who	When
All staff working directly with children are familiar with how to support children in class and the wider academy environment.	Increasing the extent to which pupils with additional needs and/or disabilities can access and participate in the academy curriculum.	Training for staff relevant to specific disabilities	Relevant staff	Ongoing
Support for staff in differentiation of the curriculum to support pupils with specific difficulties	Increasing the extent to which pupils with additional needs and/or disabilities can access and participate in the academy curriculum.	Staff meetings Observations/ quality assurance Training Development of procedures to support	Relevant staff	Ongoing
Staff ensure appropriate preparation to ensure visiting speakers/assemblies/ trips, visits and extracurricular activities are planned to ensure they are accessible to all	Increasing the extent to which pupils with additional needs and/ or disabilities can access and participate in the academy curriculum.	Review provision to ensure that accessibility has been considered and is in place. Activities are conducted in an inclusive environment and differentiated accordingly.	Relevant staff	Ongoing
Classrooms/ break out spaces are flexible to enable changes in organisation to promote participation and independence of all pupils	Increasing the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access and participate in the academy curriculum.	Flexible furniture in place and any new purchases are made in line with school requirements with accessibility in mind. Classrooms are maintained to a high standard to enable flexibility i.e. clean, tidy Bespoke requirements determined for pupils with specific needs by the SENCO in liaison with class teacher and other key staff (e.g. Health Support Worker) and external services.	Classroom staff Site Team	Ongoing
Ensure that all pupils who have individual requirements have the appropriate plans and support in place to ensure requirements are fulfilled e.g. Pupil plan, whole class provision maps etc.	Increasing the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access and participate in the academy curriculum.	Full register of need in place and stored electronically Pupil plans managed and monitored by lead staff Regular meetings held with families to ensure	SENCO Key staff, e.g. Class Teacher/ TA/Assistant heads SLT	Ongoing As needed As needed (at

		that needs are appropriately met, e.g. through PCR meetings, meetings with class teacher Provision Maps updated by staff and quality assured by SLT/SENCO. These are held centrally to enable access for temporary staff		least termly) As needed (at least termly)
Ensure availability of curriculum materials in alternative formats	Improving the availability of accessible written information.	Staff are aware of needs in place through sharing of information. Staff of aware of how conversion can be undertaken. Resources available to enable conversion in place (even if outsourced)	SENCO Assistant heads	As needed
Ensure availability of all published materials in alternative formats for the wider community.	Improving the availability of accessible written information.	Staff are aware of needs in place Staff of aware of how conversion can be undertaken. Resources available to enable conversion in place (even if outsourced) Alternative electronic formats available	SENCO Assistant heads	Ongoing
Survey parents/carers on quality of communication.	Improving the availability of accessible written information.	Academy is aware of the opinions of parents and acts on this.	Office	Ongoing/annual questionnaire
Ensure the school is well maintained and free from obstruction	Improving the physical environment of the school	Daily cleaning regime in place. Regular QA by SMT Termly Health & Safety Audits also monitor	Site Team Health and safety lead SLT	Ongoing Termly Termly
Ensure easy access to disabled facilities is available to those within the school community who need it	Improving the physical environment of the school	Disabled bays clearly signposted. 6 Regular updates to the school community via newsletter, text, website etc. to request considered use	Site Team	In place Ongoing

		Disabled toilet available in the main reception which maintained daily.	Site Team	In place
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