



## Accessibility plan

Date of policy: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Review date: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019

At Loxwood Primary School our values reflect our commitment to a school where there are high expectations of everyone. Children are provided with high quality learning opportunities so that each child attains and achieves all that they are able to. Everyone in our school is important and included. We promote an ethos of care and trust where every member of our school community feels that they truly belong and are valued. We work hard to ensure there are no invisible children here, recognising everyone's uniqueness and success. We recognise learning in all its forms and are committed to nurturing lifelong learners. We are a safe school, committed to improving children's confidence and self-esteem. We know that safe and happy children achieve.

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

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 structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. We understand that the Local Authority 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.

### **Objectives**

Loxwood 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.

The school recognises and values parent's knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on their ability to carry out everyday activities and respects the parent's and child's right to confidentiality.

The Loxwood Primary School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given timeframe 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 physical disability and/or sensory impairments, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as 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 schools visits – it also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and 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 timeframe;
- 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 timeframe.

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

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.

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

- Behaviour Management Policy
- Curriculum Policies
- Emergency Plan
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy

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.

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.

The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the School Business Committee.

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

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 priorities for the Accessibility Plan for our school were identified by:

- **The Governing Body**
- **Headteacher**
- **Inclusion Leader**
- **School Business Manager**
- **Premises Officer**

**A plan of the school buildings showing areas of accessibility is shown below:**

An Access Audit was carried out by the Chair of Governors & SBM in Dec 16. A number of recommendations were made as follows:  
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### Action Plan A - Environment

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Target Timescale	Cost
1.	Although the footpath path from Nicholsfield into the school is reasonably clear the surface has irregularities and where the drop kerb meets the parking area there is a drainage grille in the route to the school entrance	Re-surface path and move gully drain – major work	If external funds became available or if car park is re-surfaced	£4000
2.	Paving at school entrance is too steep.	Relay paving to reduce gradient	Within 3 years	£2000
3.	External door-bell at entrance too high.	Add a lower door-bell in tandem as camera is required at full height.	If required add a second bell push to existing system	£100
4.	Main entrance doors are too narrow on single leaf and outer doors too heavy to open.	Change doors to increase one leaf and reduce opening forces	Inner door being changed Easter 2017 with larger opening leaf on easy hinges – outer door to be reviewed with 3 years	Inner door £5000, external door £5000
5.	Access from playground to EYS, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms all have an external step threshold.	Provide an adjustable mobile ramp for each classroom as required.	If and when required	£800
6.	Doors between the classroom cloakrooms and classrooms on EYS and classrooms Year 3 & 4 are too narrow	Change doors to wider type if access required to that particular area	If and when required	£1000 / door
7.	Matwells in some entrance ways would impede east access	Provide a more solid shoe cleaning system if access required to these areas	If and when required	£100

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8.	Pathway into Hall by music room is too steep	Difficult as the current level aligns with the music room door level – suggest paint hazard signs on pavings	Within 3 months	£50
9.	Pathway along side of hall to patio area at rear of music room and Year 6 classroom is too steep and end of patio area has several awkward slopes	Pathway could be re-laid to a shallower gradient and a purpose made path created to all doors but this would leave some fenced off areas at the end of the patio by the hall	If and when required	£2500
10.	Slope from car park footpath gate to Year 2 slope is too steep	Re-align surface to provide a shallower slope and dedicated route	If and when required	£1500
11.	The buildings fire alarm is based on sounders and requires beacons	Add beacons to all areas	Should be on routine maintenance so when next upgrade is due	£5000
12.	Reception desk too high – requires a low section for wheelchair accessibility	Revise a section of the reception desk	If and when required	£300
13.	Colours of specific items are not in accordance with the point scale differentials set out for partially sighted people	This would affect doors, door handles, architrave colours, door thresholds and signage	If and when required	£3000
14.	Incorrect taps fitted to the Accessible WC	Replace tap – might be able to just change tap top handle	Within 3 months	£150 / £50

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15.	Class sinks are not wheelchair accessible	If required a separate sink unit could be provided that connects into the regular sink services that would allow full access – this could be moved from classroom to classroom year by year for a particular child or duplicated if required	If and when required	£1000
16.	Forest School is a generally rougher terrain area with a narrow gate and rough footpath	Replace the gate with a wider one – Advice should be sought on the relative experience Forest School should provide as it would be wrong to over-sanitize the environment.	If and when required	£?

## Schedule 22: Action Plan B – Improving Curriculum Access

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed	Responsibility	
							PFT	School
1	Differentiation in Teaching	SLT to monitor quality of differentiation and provision for SEND pupils.		High	SLT release costs			
2	Interventions	Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion to audit current interventions and their success/impact on progress. Provision mapping to be used across all year groups and within the ECAL (Every Child A Learner) Team		High	Resourcing costs of identified areas to develop			
3	Classrooms are organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion to carry out an audit of resources /QFT to ensure that lessons are planned to meet the needs of all pupils in the class.		High	Possible resource implications where gaps are identified			
4	Staff training in the production, implementation and review of Provision maps and IPMs and monitoring systems.	Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion to deliver staff training to teaching staff.		High	Not applicable			
5	Staff training in supporting pupils with SEND – focus on key areas of need within the school: SLCN, SPLD, ASD, Dyspraxia	Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion and Specialist TA to deliver training where possible. Identify gaps in knowledge and seek external advice if necessary		High	CPD for AH and SpTA External specialist costs			

## Schedule 23 Action Plan C – Improving the Delivery of Written Information

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed	Responsibility	
							PFT	School
1	Availability of written material in alternative formats when specifically requested	The school will make itself aware of the services available for converting written information into alternative formats.	On-going		Not applicable			
2	Review documentation on website to check accessibility for parents with English as an Additional Language	The school will review formats publicised on school website – particularly for new parents to the school, in order to ensure accessibility for parents with English as an additional language.	On-going		Not applicable			