

Netherthorpe Primary School Accessibility Plan

Created in collaboration with our legal expert

Last updated: 19 September 2017

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Statement of intent

This plan should be read in conjunction with the **School Development Plan** and outlines the proposals of the governing board of Netherthorpe Primary School to increase access to education for pupils with disabilities in the three areas required by the planning duties in the Equality Act 2010.

A person is regarded as having a disability under the Act where the person has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

This plan aims to:

- Increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the school curriculum.
- Improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can take advantage of education, benefits, facilities and associated services provided.
- Improve the availability of accessible information, which is readily available to other pupils, to pupils with disabilities.

The above aims will be delivered within a reasonable timeframe, and in ways which are determined after taking into account the pupil's disabilities and the views of the parents/carers and pupil. In the preparation of an accessibility strategy, the LA must have regard to the need to allocate adequate resources in the implementation of the strategy.

The governing board also recognises its responsibilities towards employees with disabilities and will:

- Monitor recruitment procedures to ensure that persons with disabilities are provided with equal opportunities.
- Provide appropriate support and provision for employees with disabilities to ensure that they can carry out their work effectively without barriers.
- Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

The plan will be resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised regularly in consultation with:

- The parents/carers of pupils
- The headteacher and other relevant members of staff
- Governors
- External partners

This plan is reviewed annually to take into account the changing needs of the schools and its pupils, and where the school has undergone a refurbishment.

Signed by:

Elizabeth Gray

Headteacher

Date: Jan 2019

Kathryn Rangeley

Chair of governors

Date: Jan 2019

Next review date: January 2022

Planning duty 1: Curriculum

Governing boards should undertake an audit of the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access the curriculum on an equal basis with their peers. Short, medium and long term action should then be identified to address specific gaps and improve access. All procedures will be carried out in a reasonable time, and after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the preferences of the pupils themselves or their parents/carers.

	Issue	What	Who	When	Outcome	Review
Short term	Management does not know if the school's physical environment is accessible	Audit of physical environment	Health and Safety for LA and for Visually impaired	Oct 2018 - done	School is aware of accessibility barriers to its physical environment, and will make a plan to address them	Summer 2019
Medium term	Learning environment of pupils with visual impairment is not accessible	Blinds for Continuous Area required	School business manager	Summer 2019	Learning environment is accessible to pupils with visual impairments	Autumn 2019
Long term	Children with physical disabilities may find climbing up and downstairs challenging	Handrail for main and back stairs	School business manager/building contractors	Summer 2021	School buildings are more independently accessible – upstairs and downstairs	Summer 2021

Planning duty 2: Physical environment

Governing boards should undertake an audit of the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access the physical environment on an equal basis with their peers. Short, medium and long term action should then be identified to address specific gaps and improve access. All procedures will be carried out in a reasonable time, and after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the preferences of the pupils themselves or their parents/carers.

	Issue	What	Who	When	Outcome	Review
Short term	Staff members do not know whether the curriculum is accessible	Audit of curriculum	Headteacher/ teachers/SEND CO	N/A	Management and teaching staff are aware of the accessibility gaps in the curriculum	Summer 2022
	Staff members do not have the skills to support pupils with SEND	Regular INSET provided to staff members Learning needs of children reviewed termly as part of PPM/SEND meetings	Headteacher/ External advisors/SENCO	N/A	Staff members have the skills to support children with SEND	Termly
Medium term	School trips do not take into account pupils with SEND	Needs of pupils with SEND incorporated into planning process	Teachers/SEND CO	N/A	Planning of school trips takes into account pupils with SEND	Termly
Long term	Pupils with SEND cannot access lessons	Reviews of needs of made during annual EHCP reviews and termly SEND reviews.	Headteacher/ICT Manager/SEND CO	N/A	Pupils with SEND can access lessons	Termly

Planning duty 3: Information

Governing boards should undertake an audit of the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access information on an equal basis with their peers. Short, medium and long term action should then be identified to address specific gaps and improve access. All procedures will be carried out in a reasonable time, and after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the preferences of themselves or their parents/carers.

	Issue	What	Who	When	Outcome criteria	Review
Short term	Management staff do not know whether school information is accessible or not	Meetings take place between SEND Co parents and agencies to identify needs of individual children	SENDCO/ICT manager	N/A	School is aware of accessibility gaps to its information delivery procedures	Termly
	School does not know how to make written information accessible	School seeks advice regularly from external advisors – in place when children join school, includes meetings with relevant professionals, e.g. visually impaired support,	SENDCO	N/A	School is aware of local services for converting written information into alternative formats	Termly
Medium term	Written information is not accessible to pupils with visual impairments	Provide written information in alternative formats Incorporate appropriate colour schemes when refurbishing (to benefit pupils with visual impairments) and install window blinds	SENDCO/ICT manager	N/A	Written information is fully accessible to children with visual impairments	Termly
Long term	School website is not accessible to children with SEND	Audit of website to ensure that information is readily accessible in Parents and SEND pages	ICT manager	Summer 2021	Website is fully accessible	Jan 2022