

Accessibility Plan

Agreed: January 2017

Review: January 2020

1. Purpose and direction of plan.

Otterham School Vision and Values, and the policies on Equality and Special Educational Needs have guided the preparation of this Accessibility Plan.

The aim of the accessibility plan is to work, year by year, on activities that improve the school premises and services to meet and match the statements in these documents. It is also the aim of the accessibility plan to plan initial and refresher training for staff to ensure that their activities meet and match statements in the above documents.

Under the Act people are not allowed to discriminate, harass or victimise another person because they have any of the protected characteristics.

We will also give due regard to reducing the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

The Equality Act 2010 includes a new public sector Equality Duty which states that public bodies must have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different groups

The following characteristics are protected characteristics—

- age
- disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion and belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

Information on the statutory duties that the school is meeting with this plan is available at:

<http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/docs/wor/new/ea-guide.pdf>

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15>

It is the duty of the staff and governors to monitor successful implementation of the accessibility plan.

Success criteria include:

- Completion of planned activities
- Satisfactory measurement of the effectiveness of activities
- Monitoring complaints about accessibility in the school

2. Information from pupil data and staff data

As at January 2017 Otterham School has:

- 0 pupils with a statement of special educational needs.
- We are aware of special medical needs with in our school community.
- Parents/carers are asked to identify special needs of their child when they enter school.
- Surveys of parents/carers seek opinions on the accessibility aspects of the school.

3. Views of those consulted during the development of the plan:

Headteacher (H Ward), SENDCO Teacher (S Burke) and governors through the Curriculum and Premises Committees. The Finance Committee have been consulted about the development of this plan.

4. The main priorities of the accessibility plan

General

- Governors and staff to maintain their awareness of the implications of the Disability Discrimination Act for the Disability and Equality Duty (DED).
- All school improvement plans projects to meet requirements of the DED.
- It pays due regard to the school SEN policy and Inclusion statement.

Curriculum

- All teacher, support staff, volunteers maintain awareness of the DED in relation to equality of access to curriculum including trips and after school activities.
- As children's special needs are identified, appropriate measures are put in place, using expert advice where necessary, to develop the children as independent learners within the bounds of their disability.
- Staff monitor the on-going achievement of all children. Interventions are implemented as appropriate.

Physical Environment

- All staff maintain their awareness about ensuring the accessibility of the physical environment.
- Any new work on buildings and outdoor areas is fully in line with DED.
- Health and safety audit monitors accessibility and medical needs and plans are put in place to make good any deficiencies.

Communications

- The school maintains a record of all pupils' and adults accessibility needs.
- All school communications meet the requirements of the DED
- Fire alarm procedures are audited in line with the DED
- Parents and carers views are sought in line with the DED

Management

- The headteacher and governors are responsible for the management of the plan.

Implementation

- The accessibility plan will be monitored by the Premises and Curriculum Committees. A report will be made on the accessibility plan annually as part of the governors' overall monitoring.

5. Publication and availability of the plan

The accessibility plan will be made available for inspection only of non-confidential items in the School Office.