

# Accessibility Plan



**Woolden Hill**  
Primary School

Achieving Success, Creating Futures Together

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## Woolden Hill Primary School

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Approved by:	Advisory Board	Next review date:	September 2024

## Document Purpose

At Woolden Hill 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. Advisory Board members 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.

## Objectives

**Key Objective:** To reduce and eliminate barriers of access to the curriculum; and to ensure full participation in the school community for pupils and prospective pupils with a disability.

Woolden Hill 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.

Woolden Hill 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.

Woolden Hill 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 and Disabilities 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 Advisory Board. 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.

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.

This policy, having been presented to and agreed upon by the whole staff and Advisory Board is distributed for the information of

All teaching staff

All teaching assistants

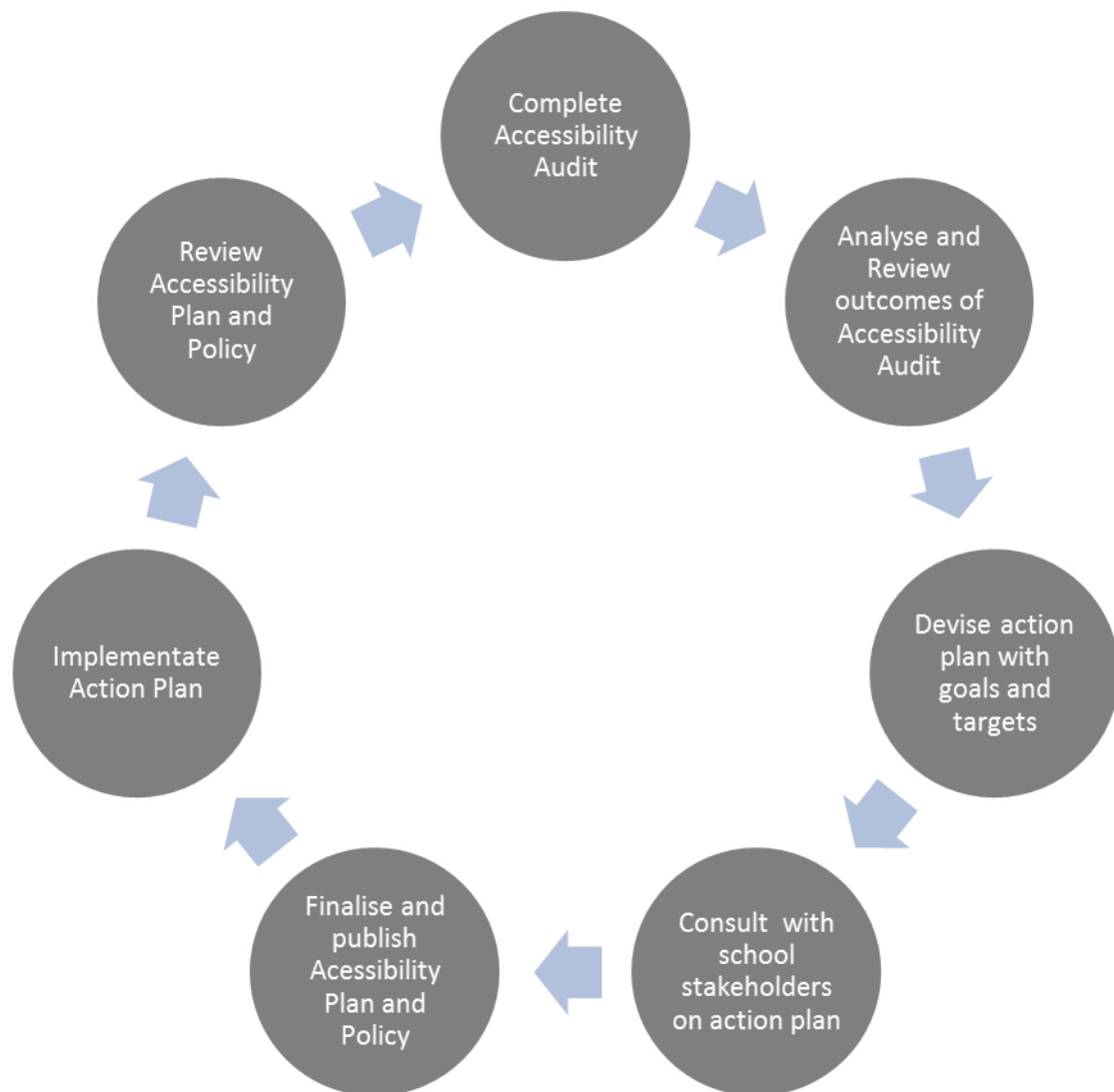
All school support staff

A copy of this policy is available for

- School governors
- External professionals
- OFSTED
- Parent
- Visiting teachers
- Other interested adults (psychological services etc.)

## Accessibility Plan – Identifying Barriers to Access

The Accessibility Plan will run on a 3 year cycle and follow the planning process outlined below. If necessary Woolden Hill Primary School will carry out interim reviews within the 3 year cycle to ensure that the needs of new members of our school community are catered for.



## IDENTIFYING BARRIERS TO ACCESS: A CHECKLIST

This checklist comprises of three sections. In the first, you are asked to consider whether the school environment in which you work is designed to meet the needs of all pupils and/or visitors, including those with SEN and/or disability. The second and third sections should be used to identify how your school delivers its curriculum and provides written materials in alternative formats and to provide a clearer picture of the barriers to access that exist in the school culture. This list is not exhaustive.

**1= yes - completely, 2 = almost - working towards meeting the guidance, 3 = partially, 4 = not yet considered.**

Physical Access	Score	Evidence / Action
Are your classrooms optimally organised for disabled pupils?	2	The main building is on one level and all doors are wide enough to fit a wheelchair. Tables and chairs would be rearranged if necessary to accommodate pupils.
Does the size and layout of the areas including all academic, sporting, play, social facilities-classrooms, the assembly hall, library, playgrounds, common rooms allow access for all pupils	2	Access can be gained by all pupils in the school. Tipi and forest school have access via alternative route, this is an area to work on to make access simpler.
Can pupils that use wheel chairs or mobility aids move around the school without experiencing barriers to access such as those caused by doorways, steps and stairs, toilet facilities and showers	1	Access can be gained easily in all areas of the school. There is a step down to exit the classrooms through the fire doors but portable ramps are used.
Are pathways of travel around the school sight and parking arrangement safe with routes logical and well signed	1	We have electrical gates to keep safe within the school boundaries. A path is followed all the way round the school.
Are emergency and evacuation systems set up to inform all pupils, including pupils with SEN and disabilities, including alarms with both visual and auditory components	1	Fire evacuation practise is carried out each term. There is a PEEP in place for any child with mobility, hearing, sight or behavioural issues and a designated person responsible for them to ensure safe and swift evacuation for all.
Are non-visual guides used, to assist people to use the buildings including lifts with tactile buttons	2	Braille signage is on the disabled toilet but would be useful on the lift.
Could any of the décor or signage be considered to be confusing or disorientating for disabled pupils with visual impairment, autism or epilepsy?	2	Most doorways are painted in a contrasting colour to the walls signage is clear.
Are areas to which pupils should have access well lit?	1	
Are steps made to reduce background noise for those pupils with sensory needs such as considering a rooms acoustics and noisy equipment?	1	Classrooms are carpeted and closed classroom design.
Is furniture and equipment selected, adjusted and located appropriately?	1	
Are quiet rooms/calming rooms available to children who need this facility?	1	A room is available with good acoustics and no distractions

Are car park spaces reserved for disabled people near the main entrance?	1	One disabled parking space at main entrance.
Are there any barriers to easy movement around the site and to the main entrance?	N	
Are steps needed for access to the main entrance? Y/N Do all those steps have a contrasting colour edging?	N	
If there are steps, is a ramp provided to access the main entrance?	NA	
Is there a continuous handrail on each ramp and stair flight and landing to the main entrance?	NA	
Is it possible for a wheelchair user to get through the principal door unaided? Y/N If no, is an alternative wheelchair accessible entrance provided?	N	There is a bell on the main reception entryway with disabled access highlighted. Once called staff will open the doors.
Do all internal doors allow a wheelchair user to get through unaided?	Y	
Do all the corridors have a clear unobstructed width of 1.2m?	Y	
Does the school have a wheelchair accessible toilet?	Y	There is 1 accessible toilet
Does the block have accessible changing rooms/shower facilities?	Y	
How many storeys in the block? Tick appropriate box: a = single storey throughout b = single storey with some split level parts c = single storey with some 2/3 storey parts d = mainly 2 or 3 storey?	b	
If the block is on more than one level, do the internal steps/stairs have contrast colour edgings?	1	Steps are marked with black and yellow paint
Is there a continuous handrail on each internal stair flight and landing?	1	
Does the block have a lift that can be used by wheelchair users?	Y	
Is it possible for a wheelchair user to use all the fire exits from areas to which they have access?	Y	Ramps are available, they are also available for pushchair use in preschool.

Access to the Curriculum	Score	Evidence / Action
Do you provide disability awareness training to enable all staff to understand and recognise disability issues?	1	All staff are trained as the need arises.
Do you have arrangements for teachers and teaching assistants to have the necessary training to teach and support children and young people with disabilities if required?	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VI support</li> <li>• HI support</li> <li>• Autism Outreach</li> <li>• EPIC Educational Psychology Service</li> <li>• EPIC Speech and Language Therapy Service</li> </ul>
Is teaching and the curriculum appropriately differentiated to meet individual needs so that children and young people make good progress?	1	.

Are there a variety of activities planned for and implemented, including discussion, oral presentation, writing, drawing, problem solving, use of library, audio-visual materials, practical tasks and information technology?	1	
Do lessons provide opportunities for all pupils to achieve and succeed?	1	
Do staff provide alternative ways of giving access to experience or understanding for children and young people with disabilities who cannot engage in particular activities, for example some forms of exercise in physical education?	1	
Do all staff recognise, understand and allow for the additional planning and effort necessary for children and young people with disabilities to be fully included in the curriculum?	1	
Are all staff encouraged to recognise and allow for the additional time required by some pupils with disabilities to use equipment in practical work?	1	
Do you provide access to appropriate technology for those with disabilities?	1	VI support providing specialist resources Smart Movers groups for those with PD Coloured filters for reading Left handed scissors/ pens
Are school visits, including overseas visits, made accessible to all children and young people irrespective of attainment or disability?	1	Risk assessments for SEND issues Various residential trips organised for year groups throughout the year.
Are there robust transition arrangements for pupils coming into and leaving the school, (including transition into Early Years and transition to secondary placements)?	1	
Are there high expectations of all pupil's behaviour?	1	Consistent system across the whole school Targeted support for those with SEMH needs
Are pupils equally valued?	1	
Are School policies reviewed, updated in accordance with legislation and shared with all stake holders eg. Anti bullying, SEND policies, health and safety, Behaviour etc	1	

<b>Information Access</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Evidence / Action</b>
Do you provide information in simple language, symbols, large print, on audiotape or in braille for pupils and prospective pupils who may have difficulty with standard forms of printed information?	1	
Do you ensure that all information is presented to groups in a way which is user friendly for people with disabilities eg. By reading aloud, overhead projector and describing diagrams.	1	



Do you have facilities such as ICT to produce written information in different formats?	1	
Do you ensure all staff are familiar with technology and practices developed to assist people with disabilities?	1	
Are the 'responsible body' aware of their duties and responsibilities under DDA?	1	

## Accessibility Plan Key Recommendations

Physical access	<p>Colour contrast for highlighted areas from VI report to be updated each term</p> <p>Tactile buttons – braille for lift</p> <p>New fence with gate so all users can access forest school.</p> <p>Shed base in EYFS to be levelled to ensure access to all areas.</p>
Curriculum access	Resources for children with sensory needs to be provided for sensory circuits
Information access	Website to include SEND information for users of the school site – including visitors

## Access Plan- Physical Access

Time Scale	Targets	Activities	Outcomes	By when	Who	Success criteria
Short term	To provide tactile signage to the lift	Braille strip to be made and attached to the lift	Lift to include better signage for all users	Spring Term	Mark Tenniswood (premises team)	Lift is clearly identified to all
Medium term	To provide flat level surface for all users in EYFS and preschool on old shed base	Cold tarmac and top soil to be laid to level the area	All users including those in a wheelchair will be able to access the grass area	Spring 2024	Mark Tenniswood (premises team)	Cold tarmac and topsoil laid to level the shed base area and users accessing the space
Long term	To provide accessibility to forest school and Tipi	New fence erected with a gate to access forest school area	Wheelchair users are able to access forest school	Summer 2024	Mark Tenniswood (premises team)	Gate is installed and is available for wheelchair users to access forest school

### Access Plan- Curriculum Access

Time Scale	Targets	Activities	Outcomes	By when	Who	Success criteria
Short term	Resources for children with sensory needs to be provided for sensory circuits	Order a range of resources for sensory circuits	There will be a range of resources available for sensory circuit groups	Autumn 2023	SENDco	Sensory circuits group will be using the resources in taught sessions
Medium term						
Long term						

### Access Plan- Information Access

Time Scale	Targets	Activities	Outcomes	By when	Who	Success criteria
Short term						
Medium term	Website to include SEND information for users of the school site – including visitors	SENDCo to map out information for website and then website host to upload	The website will include information about the accessibility of school and the resources we have	Spring 2024	SENDCo and Website host	The website will have a number of pages available with information about accessibility and what the school provides for SEND pupils
Long term						