



Whitchurch Primary School - Accessibility Plan 2021-2024

Article 23: (Children with a Disability)

A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence; and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.



This accessibility plan has been drawn up in consultation with the LEA, governors and staff of the school and covers the period from September 2021 – July 2024.

At Whitchurch Primary School, governors and staff are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes everyone. To this end we aim to make appropriate provision for those pupils and staff, parents, governors and visitors who have specific needs whether they are educational, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional or cultural. The school is further committed to challenging attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

The Governors of Whitchurch Primary School aim, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school. The following areas will form the basis of the Accessibility Plan with relevant actions to:

- increase access to the curriculum, incorporating after school and out of school activities and including educational visits
- improve access to the physical environment of the school
- improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents, and visitors with disabilities

Attached are three action plans relating to these areas. These plans will be adjusted on an annual basis as part of the School Improvement Plan.

It is acknowledged that there will be a need for ongoing awareness raising and training for all staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the potential need to inform attitudes on this matter.

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Race Equality Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- School Prospectus
- Mission Statement
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Educational Visits Policy

As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on Equality and Diversity.

The terms of reference for all governors committees will contain an item on 'having regard to matters relating to access'.

The school brochure and the Annual Report to parents will also make reference to this Accessibility Plan.

The school will work in partnership with the LEA in developing and implementing this plan and will adopt in principle the LEA Accessibility Strategy.

This plan will be monitored through the Buildings Committee of the Governing Body.

Improving the Physical Access at Whitchurch Primary School

	Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibility	Success criteria
Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School is aware of the access needs of disabled children, staff and parent/carers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create access plans for individual disabled children as part of IEP process, when and where necessary. (AG/RM) 	As necessary	AG/ Class teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual plans in place for all disabled pupils and all staff aware of all pupils' access needs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School staff are better aware of access needs of parents/carers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake confidential survey of staff and Governors to ascertain access needs and make sure they are met in meetings etc. 	April 2022	AG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All parents able to fully access all school activities.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include questions in the confidential pupil information questionnaire about parents/carers' access needs and ensure they are met in all events. 	April 2022	AG	
Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve signage and external access for visually impaired people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace external light bulbs as soon as is reasonably possible. 	As necessary	AG/ Caretaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety for the visually impaired is improved within the school environment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all disabled pupils can be safely evacuated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in place Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans for identified pupils, where and when necessary. Develop a system to ensure all staff are aware of their responsibilities. 	As and when necessary	MC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All disabled children and staff working with them are safe and confident in the event of a fire.
Long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to ensure all fire escape routes are suitable for all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request advice from LEA Planning Department/ Cardiff and Vale Coalition for Disabled People. 	July 2022	AG/ Caretaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All common facilities are located on the ground level, with ramp access

Improving the Curriculum Access at Whitchurch Primary School

	Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success criteria
Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all staff are aware of disabled pupils' curriculum access needs and the requirement of additional time allowances for individual pupils. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the system for information to be shared with appropriate staff and lunchtime supervisors is in place. 	As and when necessary	AG/MC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff aware of individual pupils' access needs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all staff are aware of, and able to use, SEN software and resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run individual training sessions on use of SEN resources. • Appropriate staff training incorporated into INSET sessions as and when new initiatives are introduced into the school. 	<p>As and when necessary</p> <p>As and when necessary</p>	<p>AG/MC</p> <p>AG/MC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to receive appropriate training • Staff to receive appropriate training
Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all staff have undertaken disability equality training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up INSET training for all staff on Equalities/ Disability Equality Duty. • Ensure new staff access similar CPD courses. 	Ongoing	AG/SLT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff work from a disability equality perspective
Long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all curriculum areas to include disability issues in relation to the requirements of the DED. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include specific reference to disability equality in all curriculum reviews. 	Ongoing July 2022	AG/ All curriculum leaders and team members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gradual introduction of disability issues into all curriculum areas through an agreed Equality Impact Assessment cycle

Improving the Access to Information at Whitchurch Primary School

	Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success criteria
Short term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review information to parents/carers to ensure it is accessible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult parents/carers about access needs when child is admitted to school. Review all letters home to check that they are written in Plain English. Produce newsletter in alternative formats as and where necessary e.g. large print, Braille, wherever possible. 	<p>Ongoing September 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AG/MC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AG/ Class teachers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All parents receive information in a format that is accessible e.g. large print, etc.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all staff are aware of guidance on accessible formats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance shared with staff on accessible information for individual parents, when and where necessary. 	<p>September 2022</p>	<p>AG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School produces information in a range of accessible ways to meet the needs of individual parents/carers.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusive discussion of access to information in all annual reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents/carers and children about access to information and preferred formats in all reviews. Develop strategies to meet needs. 	<p>As and when necessary</p> <p>As and when necessary</p>	AG / Class teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff more aware of pupils' preferred methods of communication.
Medium term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review school prospectus to be accessible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review school brochure to ensure it explicitly welcomes disabled children and those with SEN. 	September 2022	AG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents/carers feel confident in the information they have about the school.
Long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children become more aware of their preferred learning styles and access needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include access to information in Circle Time. Encourage pupils to express their access needs and explore learning styles. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>All staff</p> <p>All staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children able to articulate their access needs and understand their own learning styles.