



SPARKENHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY AND PLAN

Persons responsible for this policy: Headteacher; Site Manager; SENCO

Statement

Under the Equality Act 2010 schools should have an Accessibility Plan. 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 listed as a statutory document of the Department for Education's guidance on statutory policies for schools. The Plan must be reviewed every three years and approved by the Governing Body. The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, an individual or the Head. At Sparkenhoe Primary School the Accessibility Plan is monitored by the headteacher and evaluated by the relevant Governors' committee. The current Accessibility Plan is appended to this document.

At Sparkenhoe Primary School we believe that every child should have access to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. This should take account of their individual strengths and needs and should allow each child to fulfil their potential.

1) The Sparkenhoe Primary School Accessibility Plan has been developed and drawn up based upon information supplied by the Local Authority, and consultations with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school. Other outside agencies and specialists have also been consulted. The document is used to advise other school planning documents and policies and is reported upon annually in respect of progress and outcomes. The intention is to provide a projected plan for a three year period ahead of the next review date.

2) The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives and will 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.

3) Sparkenhoe Primary School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access and 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.



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4) The Sparkenhoe 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 disability, expanding the **curriculum** as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as are 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.

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

6) Whole school training will recognize the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

7) This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the other school policies, strategies and documents, including:

- Behaviour Policy and Anti-bullying Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Single Equality Policy
- Disability Access Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Staff Development Policy
- Asset Management Plan
- School Improvement Plan
- Critical Incident Support Plan



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- 8) 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 on-going period.
- 9) 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.
- 10) The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.
- 11) The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Governors' Resource Management Committee.
- 12) The school will work in partnership with the Local Authority in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.
- 13) The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Aims

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum.
- Improve and maintain the physical environment to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided.
- Improve the availability of accessible written information.

Sparkenhoe Primary School aims to treat all pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and other members of the school community favourably and wherever possible takes reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled pupils. As part of the school's continuing communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders we continually look at ways to improve accessibility through data collection, questionnaires and parental discussions.



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This policy was last reviewed on 8/12/2015 at the Resource Management committee meeting.

Signed _____ (Head teacher)

Signed _____ (Chair of Governors/vice chair/chair of committee)

Date _____



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Building information

Saxby Building

The main entrance, Foundation 2 classes and extended services are immediately accessible for a child in a wheel chair. All downstairs classrooms are accessible by using the main entrance. A lift is available, which is designed for wheel chair use, to access the upstairs Year 4 classrooms.

Ark Building

This building is all on the flat and is accessible for a child in a wheelchair. It includes a mobile access ramp to the stage.

Gopsall Building

The main entrance and one classroom on the ground floor are accessible for a child in a wheelchair. The rest of the building is not suitable for wheelchair user.

- The Current Range of Disabilities within Sparkenhoe Primary School is recorded in individual pupil and staff records and known to all relevant members of staff.
- The school has at least the required number of competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates.



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ACCESSIBILITY PLAN 2015-2018

Targets	Strategies	Outcome	Time Frame	Goals achieved
EQUALITY AND INCLUSION				
To ensure that the accessibility plan becomes an annual item at Governors meeting.	Clerk to governors to add to list for meeting.	Adherence to legislation.	Annually	
To improve staff awareness of disability issues.	Review staff training needs. Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate.	Whole school community aware of issues.	On - going	
To ensure that all relevant policies consider the implications of disability access.	Consider during review of policies.	Policies reflect current legislation.	On- going	
To ensure child recovering from serious medical condition has minimal risk of contracting infections.	Parents to be reminded of need to inform school about infections that might cause problems.	Child continues to make good recovery.	Half Termly	



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PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

<p>Incorporation of appropriate colour scheme to benefit pupils and parents with visual impairments.</p>	<p>Seek Advice from LCC sensory support service on appropriate colour schemes, blinds, lighting.</p>	<p>Classes are made accessible to visually impaired children and parents.</p>	<p>On- going</p>	<p>Physical accessibility of school increased.</p>
<p>Ensure emergency evacuation plan includes a strategy for evacuation of disabled pupils, staff, visitors, and community users.</p>	<p>Seek advice from Health & Safety Advisor and LCC.</p>	<p>Policy includes strategy that ensures immediate exit.</p>		<p>Exits for disabled are increased</p>
<p>Saxby Building Alter fire escape route from hall from a step to a slope.</p>	<p>Costing to be provided by contractor through LA.</p>	<p>To ensure that where possible the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all children and adults.</p>	<p>Summer 2016</p>	<p>Budget and secure capital funding to improve accessibility</p>



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CURRICULUM

To continue to train staff to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEN.	SENCO to review the needs of children and provide training for staff as needed.	Staff are able to enable all children to access the curriculum.	On - going	
To ensure that all children are able to access all out-of school activities, e.g. clubs, trips, residential visits etc.	Review of out of school provision to ensure compliance with legislation.	All providers of out-school education will comply with legislation to ensure that the needs of all children are met.	On - going	
To provide specialist equipment to promote participation in learning by all pupils	Assess the needs of the children in each class and provide equipment as needed.	Children will develop independent learning.	Reviewed by SENCO	



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WRITTEN INFORMATION

To ensure all parents and other members of the community can access information.	Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary and if practicable.	Parents and other members of the community have greater access to information.	As needed	
Ensure parents who have a disability can access parents' evenings.	Staff to hold meeting on ground floor or by phone.	Parents are informed of children's progress.		

Audits and assessments of all three buildings (Saxby, Gopsall and the Ark) were undertaken in Autumn 2015.