

# The Spires Accessibility Plan

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### 1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

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

Our school aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

Five Rivers is committed to ensure that all children and young people have equal worth and equal rights and a belief in each child or young person's potential, no matter what they have experienced or what they have done.

We will actively seek to:

- Promote equality of opportunity between people with disabilities and other persons.
- Eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Act.
- Eliminate harassment of people with disabilities that is related to their disabilities.
- Promote positive attitudes towards people with disabilities.
- Encourage participation by people with disabilities in public life. It is also important to
- respect the wishes of children with disabilities so that they do not feel pushed into activities they do not wish to take part in.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of <u>schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010</u> and the Department for Education (DfE) <u>guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010</u>.

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the <u>Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice</u>, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

# 3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim	<b>Objectives</b> Short, medium and long-term objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Short Term  Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.  Use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.  Curriculum progress to be tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.  Targets to be set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.  The curriculum to be reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.  Teachers to adapt, where possible, resources and techniques to suit a wide range of learners  To take account of variety of learning styles when teaching	Identify pupils who need additional help To comply with the Equality Act 2010 To ensure collaboration between school and homes Introduction of Pro-active Provide a range of assessment material to assist in evidencing progress BSquared used Use of interactive ICT resources Improved ICT CPD for staff Sensory processing / Thrive / Zones of regulation Additional training in place Proactive approaches embedded Trauma Informed practice and training Advice to be taken from specialists – Additional clinical support in place Multi agency working	HT and all teachers	ongoing  Updated Spring 2023  September 2022 – audit of environment from OT	Clear collaborative working  Strategies evident in classroom practice  Children with SEN supported and accessing curriculum  Progress made against IEP targets  Learning styles and activities evident in lessons  Resources evident in classrooms

	Create strong links with external partners e.g. Advisers, Social Service, Health Service, Speech and Language therapists, Specialist teachers.				
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Medium and Long Term  Should it become necessary, Braille signs for visually impaired children will be installed  Should it become necessary, a sound loop for hearing impaired children will be installed.  Have appropriate seating and desk support available to provide necessary back support where required.  Ensure children with disabilities have access to extra curricula activities both theoretically and practically  Additional staff will be allocated (ratio's) to accompany solely those children with specific needs. Wheelchair access bus/coach transport would be used if required. Risk assessments will be carried out for chosen trip locations.  Ensure all children with disabilities can access school trips unless a full risk assessment indicates that participation should not take place.	Identify in pupils IEPs All staff to be aware of each pupil's needs Trips and visits to take into account pupils with disabilities.  Advice to be taken from specialists to ensure appropriate and relevant resources in place  Additional clinical input through Psychotherapist and Educational Psychiatrist on site part time ATSSA (Attachment and Trauma Sensitive School Award) gained in Bronze and Silver and gold  Additional areas of school – eg Cabin and top corridor to be considered	HT and all teachers	Termly/ Annually dependent on need  Updated Autumn 2023	Clear collaborative working  Strategies evident in classroom practice  Children with SEN supported and accessing curriculum  Progress made against IEP targets  Learning styles and activities evident in lessons  Resources evident in classrooms

Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	Use appropriate resources to aid children with dyslexic type difficulties  Short Term Improve the physical environment of the school	The school will take account the needs of pupils, staff and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the	HT and Five Rivers whole company	December 2022 and ongoing	Enabling needs met where possible
	Ensure visually stimulating environment  Ensure all children are able to be involved in school activities  To ensure that the medical needs of all pupils are met fully within the capability of the school  Ensure disabled parents have opportunities to be involved	site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.  Colourful, lively resources displayed.  Create access plans for identified pupils.  To liaise with families and external agencies.  To provide relevant training for staff and establish individual protocols where necessary.  Arrange interpreters if required to communicate with deaf parents  Offer a telephone call to explain letters home for some parents who need this  Adopt a more proactive approach to identifying the access requirements of disabled parents  Ongoing. Bespoke packages for individual pupils dependent on need.  Development of 1ACE to support,	HT and all staff	Updated Spring 2023	Stimulating, positive learning environment created

Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	Medium and Long Term Continue to develop facilities.  To ensure all surrounding areas of the school are safe.	Action for the school development plan Identify fundraising opportunities.  Risk Assessments in place.  Material change applied for to support waiting list for children with SENDawaiting inspection Sept 23  Regular review of classrooms and resources RA completed on new cabin in Hale Hall, full use of top corridor from Sept 23 to be added to fire evac plan	HT and all staff	Termly/ Annually dependent on need  Updated Summer 2023	Inclusive facilities  No accidents
Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability.	Short Term  To use a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible.	Investigate symbol software to support learners with reading difficulties.  Raising awareness of font size and page layouts will support pupils with visual impairments.  Auditing the school library to ensure the availability of large font and easy read texts will improve access.  Auditing signage around the school to ensure that is accessible to all.	HT and all staff	December 2022 Updated Spring 2023	Communication is accessible
Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability.	Medium and Long Term  To regularly review pupils' records to ensure full awareness of any disabilities	Information collected for each student. All staff to read and have access to student risk assessments and IEPs. Regular meetings.	HT and all staff	Termly/ Annually dependent on need	All staff aware of pupils with disabilities

Annual reviews.  Significant health problems: all staff fully aware of each student. Information kept on file accessible to school staff.	Ongoing review due to nature of pupils.  Updated Spring 2023	
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# 4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every 3 years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

# 5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality and diversity policy
- Special educational needs (SEND) policy.
- Medication policy