



Oakdale Junior School Accessibility Statement and Plan

Name of Chair:

Signed

Mr David Mann

Name of Headteacher:

Signed

Mrs Eileen Bissell

Responsibility: Mrs Eileen Bissell

Adopted by Governors and Agreed on:

6th March 2017

Date of Review:

6th March 2020

Ref : B17

Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Equality Act 2010. It draws on the guidance set out in "Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils, Staff, Visitors and for Community use".

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Equality Act 2010

"A person has a disability 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 carry out normal day to day activities."

Key Objective

To reduce and, where possible, eliminate barriers to accessing the school, its curriculum and to full participation in Oakdale Junior School community for pupils and prospective pupils, parents, staff, governors visitors and the wider community where there is a disability.

The school is mainly a single storey building, built in 1992 with subsequent extensions added in 1995. Additional Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) works were also undertaken during 2005 and later developments which now provide for a second story with lift access. Current levels of accessibility are good. Most doors are wide enough for wheel chair access, although some external doors are narrow and have a low step to access them.

Consideration will be given to further alterations as the needs of specific pupils are identified.

Principles for pupil learning

Compliance with the Equality Act 2010 is consistent with Oakdale Junior School's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of Oakdale Junior School's Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) policy and Safeguarding requirements. Oakdale Junior School recognises its duty under the Equality Act:

- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- To publish an Accessibility Statement and Plan.

In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the Equality Act Code of Practice.

Oakdale Junior School recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.

Oakdale Junior School provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum in line with the National Curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:

- Setting suitable learning challenges
- Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

Activity

Education & related activities

Oakdale Junior School will continue to seek and follow the advice of Local Authority (LA) services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEND inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local National Health Service (NHS) Trusts.

Physical environment

Oakdale Junior School will take account of the needs of pupils, visitors and community users with physical difficulties, sensory impairments and mental health emotional development requirements when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishment of the site and premises

Provision of information

Oakdale Junior School will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- School Improvement Plan and RAPs
- School Teaching, Learning and Assessment policy
- Staff Appraisal policy
- School Safeguarding policy
- Building and site development plan
- SEND policy
- Equal Opportunities policy
- Curriculum policies.