

Somerville Primary School

Accessibility Plan.

2016 to 2018

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 Somerville Primary School the Plan will form part of the Behaviour and Safety section of the School Development Plan and will be monitored by the headteacher and evaluated by the relevant Governors’ committee.

At our school we are committed to working together to provide an inspirational and exciting learning environment where all children can develop an enthusiasm for life-long learning. We believe that children should feel happy, safe and valued so that they gain a respectful, caring attitude towards each other and the environment both locally and globally.

The 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 will be used to advise other school planning documents and policies and will be 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.

The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school’s Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website in the SEN offer section. 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.

Our 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.

Improving the Curriculum Access at Somerville Primary School

| Target | Strategy | Outcome | Timeframe | Achievement |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|

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|--|--|--|---|--|
| Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum and ensuring ASD and dyslexia friendly classrooms. | Inform staff from feedback from learning walks how to improve their classroom and learning for all. | All teachers are able to more fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs with regards to accessing the curriculum | Jan 2016 to Dec 2016 | Increase in access to the National Curriculum |
| All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils. | Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation | All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements | Each risk assessment for every visit is to ensure all children can access the out of school activity. | Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils |
| Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils | Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases | Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual pupils | From October 2016 for every refurbished classroom. | Increase in access to the National Curriculum |
| Training for Awareness Raising of Disability Issues | Provide training for governors, staff, pupils and parents. Discuss perception of issues with staff to determine the current status of school | Whole school community aware of issues relating to Access | Summer Term 2016 | Society will benefit by a more inclusive school and social environment |

Improving the Delivery of Written Information

| Target | Strategy | Outcome | Timeframe | Achievement |
|---|--|---|---------------------|---|
| Availability of written material in alternative formats | The school will make itself aware of the services available through the LA and Google translation for converting written information into alternative formats. | The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes | From September 2016 | Delivery of information to disabled pupils improved |
| Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats | Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it | All school information available for all | From September 2016 | Delivery of school information to parents and the local community improved |
| Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with visual impairment | Get advice from Hearing and Vision Support Service on alternative formats and use of IT software to produce customized materials. | All school information available for all | From September 2016 | Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual difficulties improved. |
| Raise the awareness of adults working at and for the school on the importance of good communications systems. | Arrange training for all staff. | Awareness of target group raised | Summer Term 2016 | School is more effective in meeting the needs of pupils. |

Improving the Physical Access

| Item | Activity | Timescale |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Accessible car parking | One Bay to be signed | Jan 2016 COMPLETE |
| Doors | Anti-glare film to be applied to the doors | By October 2016 and on-going |
| Accessible toilet | To provide two unisex accessible toilets, one for KS1 and one for KS2 | COMLETE |
| Adapted wash basins to be at wheelchair height with space under for wheelchair to allow user to get close to wash basin. | To be moved to wheelchair height, as money allows. | By 2017. |