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Name of policy: Accessibility Policy

### **REVISION HISTORY**

Date	Version	Description

Head Teacher	Date	
Chair of Governors	Date	

### **Accessibility Policy**

Accessibility Plan 2014-2017

### **Vision and Values**

At Church Hill we develop independent, self-motivated, life long learners. We have high ambitions for disabled pupils and expect them to participate and achieve in every aspect of school life.

Church Hill School's commitment to equal opportunities is driven by the National Curriculum statement that the school:

- Sets suitable learning challenges.
- Responds to children's diverse needs.
- Overcomes potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

We aim to identify and remove any such barriers for disabled pupils in every area of school life and make all children feel welcome. We are committed to creating positive self-images in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

The school has set the following priorities for the development of the vision and values that inform the plan:

- Make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils and adults, so that they will not be at a disadvantage.
- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum.
- Improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and extended school facilities.
- Ensure access for disabled staff and parents, monitoring needs of adult members of the school community and make reasonable adjustments as required,
- Make written information accessible in a range of different ways for disabled pupils where it is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

### Information from pupil data and school audit

The Headteacher and SENCO will assess data already in the school regarding pupils who may be included within the Disability Discrimination Act's definition of

disability and will access information available on the school's future intake on pupils with a statement who may also be disabled.

An audit of the schools strengths and weaknesses in working with disabled pupils has included:

- Areas of the curriculum to which disabled pupils may have limited or no areas of access.
- Areas of the school to which disabled pupils would have limited or no access at the moment.
- The impact on disabled pupils of the way the school is organised for example school policies, practices and procedures relating to areas such as risk assessments, administration of prescription medicines and the way in which information is currently provided.
- Analysis of outcome data showing achievements and progress made by different groups of children.

### Consultation for the development of the plan

In order for the school to set priorities for the plan, remove any barriers for disabled pupils and to co-ordinate within the Local Authority strategy we have taken into account our consultation regarding pupils' needs with the Visual Impaired, Hearing Impaired and Physical Accessibility Services.

# <u>Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the School Curriculum</u>

At Church Hill School we are aware of the access services available to us and who to contact to help identify barriers for curriculum planning. Deployment and training of Learning Support Staff is a key element for our successful planning we are developing awareness of disability through the curriculum.

The school has set the following priorities for increasing curriculum access:

- Teachers will indicate where special resources and measures will be required for individual pupils.
- Sourcing of height adjustable furniture for classrooms.
- Representation of disabled pupils in books and teaching materials.
- Purchase suitable resources including sprung scissors, penholders and grips, angled dry wipe boards, roller ball and joysticks for ICT to be used instead of mice.

- Dyslexia Awareness Training for all Staff.
- Supporting children with language difficulties in the class, training for Learning Support Assistants.
- Medical conditions policy to support children with medical issues and enable short and long term administration of prescription drugs.
- Review Provision Mapping.
- Develop greater collaborative working with parents of disabled pupils.

# Improving the Physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services.

After undertaking an audit and systematically considering aspects of the physical environment for pupils with different impairments, the school has set the following priorities:

- 1) Review provision for physically disabled children
  - Create a soft play area to allow physically disabled children to access physical play opportunities.
  - Review opportunities for inclusive play in KS1
  - Review and update accessible IT hardware and software
- 2) Review provision pupils with Dyslexia
  - Review current provision for Dyslexic pupils
  - Training for SENCo to assess Dylexia
  - Training for teaching and support staff to support Dyslexic pupils more effectively.
  - 3) Upgrade disabled toilet facilities in KS2

# <u>Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information that is provided in</u> writing for pupils who are not disabled

Church Hill School is aware that information for pupils such as homework, teacher feedback - marking of work, notices and instructions normally provided in writing may need to be available in different formats. Different formats will enable pupils with different impairments to access the information.

The school has set the following priorities for increasing information access:

• The school will contact support services should a pupil requiring a specialised format join the school.

- Photographs of the Teacher and Learning Support Assistant along with their names in a clearly defined typeface and style to be placed outside each classroom.
- School to have signs and symbols to direct pupils and visitors around the school.
- Photographs and names of all staff on the notice board in the main reception.
- To always work collaboratively with parents of disabled pupils.

These proposed adjustments will increase access for pupils currently in school, those children who may attend in the future and also visitors coming into school. Church Hill School is also aware of its duties towards any potential disabled members of staff or members of the parent body joining the school.

The plan is a three-year working document.

Within each of the three strands, targets are organised as short, medium and long term with target completion dates.

The whole plan will be reviewed annually by the Head teacher and SENCO. Minutes of the review meetings will be used to develop a revised plan at the end of the duration of the three years

Signed:	Mr Marc Wetherill– Chair of Governors
Signed:	Mrs. Rebecca Mottershead - Headteacher

### Accessibility Plan 2014 – 2017 Targets/Actions

#### Year 1 2014/15

- Provision of soft play area for physically disabled
- Review dyslexia support for pupils

### Year 2 2015/16

- Dyslexia training for SENCo
- Upgrade signage to ensure it is more accessible for the visually impaired
- Assess IT needs to allow access to the curriculum for physically disabled child

#### Year 3 2016/17

- Cycle of replacement of ICT equipment, this will include additional equipment to improve accessibility for disabled pupils, larger keyboards, rollerball/joysticks,
- Replace front door with automatic opening hydraulic doors.
- Upgrade disabled toilet facilities in KS2
- Dyslexia training for whole staff