



"We Care."

Accessibility Plan Policy

Persons Responsible: LA / Lisa Clark

Policy reviewed

Summer 2021

Headteacher:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Clark', is written over a horizontal line.

Date: July 2021

Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Accessibility Plan 2021 – 2024

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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.

There are a number of accessibility issues / concerns that the school will give on-going consideration to as part of the expansion of the school. The school is currently a five form entry school and issues of accessibility are regularly reviewed. Hamstel Infant school and Nursery shares a large site with a partner Junior School. There is tight access for both schools and circulation between schools and the Nursery has been an issue in the past. Issues of accessibility whilst maintaining security are the main issue as the Nursery, Infant and Junior school all have differing start and finish times with the Nursery running both morning and afternoon sessions. There is also a swimming pool on site that is for the use of both schools and other outside communities, including a Swim School; whilst we have to maintain access we also have to give due consideration to security of the whole site.

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.

This Accessibility Policy and Plan are drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability and Equality Act 2010

<https://www.gov.uk/definition-of-disability-under-equality-act-2010>.

Portico Academy Trust, Trustees are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

1. We are committed to providing an accessible environment which 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 challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
2. Hamstel Infant School and Nursery plans to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
3. An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three year period. The plan will be reviewed annually.
4. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school by adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils. This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.

- Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, newsletters and information about the school and school events. The information will be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame wherever possible.

5. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this first Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each first three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period. Some adjustments are specific to individual pupils / staff / visitors and will be made accordingly.

6. A section relating to access can be found referenced within the Equality and Diversity Policy. The terms of reference for all Trust committees will contain an item on “having regard to matters relating to Access”.

7. The School Information booklet will make reference to access.

8. The School’s Complaints Policy covers the Accessibility Plan.

9. Information about our Accessibility Plan can be accessed following a request to the school office.

10. The Plan will be monitored through the relevant members of the Trustee board.

11. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.

12. We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising and training for staff and trustees in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#).

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a ‘substantial’ and ‘long-term’ adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), ‘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.

Action plan

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

An Access Audit is carried out by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Site Manager and members of the Inclusion Team and a number of recommendations are made prior to any known child / parent / visitor accessing the school:

Hamstel Infant School and Nursery Accessibility Plan 2021-2024

Improving the Physical Access at Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost
1	Signage	Appropriate signs for ease of access for all	By January 2022	£500
2	Door Access	Portable ramps for areas with restricted access to be regularly checked	On-going schedule with site walk	£500
3	Play Areas	Repaint yellow lines to de-mark level transitions, ensure all platforms are protected and maintained	On-going schedule of re-painting	£100
4	Automatic Door Access	Main automatic door entry to be serviced regularly	Annual SLA drawn up on-going	£250
5	Alarm Systems /	Regular testing of alarm systems – fire alarm and panic alarm systems	Annual SLA drawn up on-going	£500
6	Evacuation procedures	Evacuation procedures to be reviewed annually	Ongoing	£150
7	Disabled toilets	Disabled toilets in hall area, outside and hygiene room to be regularly checked	On going	Cleaning contract SLA
8	School Entrances	School entrances to be regulated for access, especially for double buggy and disabled access	On going	£1,000
9	Dining facilities and Hall access	Access to hall and dining facilities to be reviewed regularly	Termly / ongoing	£150
10	Kitchen	Appropriate routes established for deliveries to kitchen area	Termly / ongoing	£150

11	Access to play areas	Access routes to play areas and high use times of movement around the school to be reviewed	Termly / ongoing	£500
12	Access to the pool and pool building	Pool hoist fitted to facilitate access to the pool for pupils with reduced mobility	Service annually and maintenance twice a year	£500
13	Hobbit hut and pool building access	Ramp and thresholds reviewed, portable to thresholds obtained for hobbit hut and swimming pool	Threshold ramps reviews	£90 £200
14	Access for wheelchair users for the mezzanine floor in the infants	NOVA lift installed to allow seated wheelchair access to the	Lift service and maintenance	£500
15	Pupil access to toilet facilities	Access to toilet facilities is regularly reviewed to support room changes and access to additional toilet areas, door opening adjusted and toilet frame and wall handles fitted as required	Toilet ramps frames incorporated	£200
16	Resources to support visual impairment	Matt laminate sheets used to reduce glare on display Enlarged print used Focus coloured table coverings purchased Door and window glass frosting or paint to be reviewed	Termly ongoing	£150

Improving the Curriculum Access at Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost
1	Differentiation in teaching	SLT to monitor quality of differentiation and provision for pupils with SEND.	Termly / ongoing	None
2	Targeted Intervention groups outside of class teaching sessions to impact pupil progress	SENCO and Inclusion Leader to audit current interventions and their impact on progress. Provision mapping to be used across all year groups.	Termly / ongoing	Costs to be identified within SEND and Pupil Premium budget

3	Classrooms organised to promote the participation and independence of all	SENCO and Inclusion Leader to carry out Learning Walks to ensure that classrooms are organised to meet the needs of pupils in the class.	Termly / ongoing	None
4	Interventions by Teaching Assistants within teaching sessions impacting positively on the progress of pupils	SENCO, Inclusion Leader and Pupil Manager for Wellbeing to observe Teaching Assistants termly and use feedback to plan training.	Termly / ongoing	None
5	Staff training in the implementation and review of Provision Maps, EHCP's and ISPs	SENCO to deliver while staff training initially, with follow up sessions for individuals or new joiners.	Termly / ongoing then as required following monitoring of ISPs	None
6	Staff training in supporting pupils with SEND, focussing on key areas within the school: Speech and Language, Nurture, Dyslexia and ASD	SENCO to deliver training where possible. Identify gaps in knowledge and seek external advice if necessary.	Termly / ongoing then as required following observations and continuous review of needs of pupils with SEND	None
7	Curriculum resources to include examples of people with disabilities	Year group leads and class teachers ensure that resources include examples representing those who have varied needs	Termly / ongoing	£200
8	Welcome nurture base reinstated	After a review of the reception intake a rise in the number of pupils with identified needs	From Autumn term 2021	TBC

Improving the Delivery of Written Information at Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost
1.	Availability of written material in alternative formats when requested	SENCO and Inclusion Lead will ensure they are aware of services available for converting written material into alternative formats.	Termly / ongoing	None
2.	Review documentation on website to ensure accessibility for all	SENCO and Inclusion Lead review formats published on school website. Ensure aware of services to convert written materials, particularly for parents	Termly / ongoing	None

		new to the school with English as an additional language		
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Ensuring COVID safe entry and exit Hamstel Infant School and Nursery

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost
1	Signage	Appropriate signs indicating COVID safe procedures to be displayed around the school site	Termly Ongoing, in response to current Government guidance	£200
2	Door Access	Portable ramps for areas with restricted access to be regularly checked	On-going schedule with site walk	£500
3	Evacuation procedures	Evacuation procedures to be reviewed annually, to ensure the procedures are COVID safe	Ongoing	£150

Monitoring arrangements

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

It will be approved by the Board of Trustee and the Head teacher.

Links with other policies

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

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy