

Rationale

This policy and plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995. The SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA) amended part 4 so that it became applicable to education and to prevent discrimination against disabled people in their access to education. This has placed three key duties on schools, which are:-

- Not to treat disabled students less favourably for a reason related to their disability
- To make reasonable adjustments for disabled students, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage
- Plan to increase access for disabled students

A completed access audit, available in office, informs our accessibility plan. It is our intention, that over a reasonable period of time and with due regard for funding and resourcing, we will ensure:

- Full access to education for all users
- Ensuring that the school site is accessible and safe for all users
- Providing training as appropriate to ensure any child with a disability achieves their full potential (approaches and resources)

Our plan exemplifies the school ethos that:-

- Everyone in the school community is made to feel welcome
- There are high expectations of all pupils
- Staff, governors and pupils share a philosophy of inclusion
- Pupils are equally valued
- Staff seek to remove all barriers to learning participation

In addition, the school recognises it has a responsibility to help children understand the discrimination faced by disabled people and work positively to counteract discrimination.

Aims

- To make education, as a whole, available to disabled children without discrimination.
- To make provision to allow disabled pupils, staff, governors and parents to be fully included in school life.



Implementation of the Plan

The school will take reasonable steps to avoid discrimination against any disabled pupil or adult with particular regard to:-

- Entry to school / admissions policy
- Access (physical)
- The curriculum
- Teaching and learning
- Classroom and school organisation
- The school day / timetabling
- Sports
- Extra-curricular activities
- Trips
- Assessment / testing
- Discipline and exclusion

To achieve our intentions the school will:-

- Make reasonable adjustments to the physical setting of the school /classrooms and its day-to-day organisation
- Review health and safety in relation to specific needs, including medical, security, emergency and evacuation systems
- Increase awareness of barriers to access, including space, pathways of travel, signage and decor
- Work closely with the NCC and Newcastle Diocesan Education Board regarding admissions policy
- Liaise with parents and prospective parents
- Liaise with pre-school, specialist advisors and link schools as appropriate
- Consult with NCC and Newcastle Diocesan Education Board specialist advisors re building work, curriculum and resource provision
- Investigate sources of funding
- Review practices and policies as necessary
- Make arrangements to deliver information in a range of accessible formats
- Address training needs of all staff, including technological advice
- Facilitate appropriate teaching and learning through exemplary deployment of teaching and support staff
- Include all pupils in all curricular and extra-curricular activities, where it is reasonable to do so
- Plan trips and out-of-school activities, with due regard to needs



Monitoring and Review

The short, mid and long term aspects of the plan will be reviewed annually by the governing body.

Access Plan for 2015-2018				
Objective	Tasks	Resources	Success Criteria	Deadline/person responsible
Ensuring that the school site is accessible and safe for all users	Consider contrasting markings on all steps both inside and out	Costings to be sought	All members of the school community and visitors can access all parts of the school site safely	Headteacher Governor - JE
Providing training as appropriate to ensure any child with a disability achieves their full potential (approaches and resources)	Bi-annual discussion on the needs of pupils and training arranged appropriately.	Costings as needed	Staff are trained as appropriate	Headteacher Governor - JE

Date Reviewed: October 2017

Next Reviewed: October 2018 (To be reviewed annually)