



# **ACCESSIBILITY PLAN**

## **2018 – 2021**

*Rodmarton Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share the same commitment. All staff and volunteers are subject to an enhanced DBS check.*

*Please refer to the school's Safeguarding Children Policy for more information.*

*'We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.'*

1. Vision Statement
2. Aims and Objectives
3. Current good practice • Physical Environment • Curriculum • Information
4. Access Audit
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6. Action Plan

### **1. Vision Statement:**

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 Rodmarton the Plan will form part of the Premises, Resources, Fund-Raising and Marketing section of the School Development Plan and will be monitored by the headteacher and evaluated by the relevant Governors’ committee. The current Plan will be appended to this document.

At Rodmarton 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.

1) The Rodmarton 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.

2) The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. 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.

3) Rodmarton 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.

4) The Rodmarton Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to:-

**Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability**, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of their duties under the Equalities Act 2010); this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or schools visits – it also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;

**Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the school**, this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable timeframe;

Improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

5) **The Rodmarton Accessibility Plan** relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

6) **Whole school training** will recognize the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

7) **This Accessibility Plan** should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Behaviour Management Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Equality Plan
- School Prospectus
- School Improvement Plan
- Special Educational Needs Policy

**8) The Accessibility Plan** for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this accessibility plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

**9) Equality Impact Assessments** will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

**10) The Accessibility Plan** will be published on the school website.

**11) The Accessibility Plan** will be monitored through the Governor Finance and Premises Committee

12) The school will work in partnership with the Local Authority in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.

13) The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

## **2. Aims and Objectives**

### **Our Aims are:**

- 1) To increase access to the curriculum for disabled pupils,
- 2) To improve and maintain access to the physical environment
- 3) To improve the delivery of written information to pupils.

### **Our objectives are detailed in the Action Plan below**

## **3. Current good practice**

We aim to ask about any disability or health condition in early communications with new parents and carers. For parents and carers of children already at the school, we collect information on disability as part of a survey of parents' views, or in conjunction with a letter home about a parents' evening.

### **Physical Environment**

Disabled pupils participate in extra-curricular activities. Some aspects of extra-curricular activities present particular challenges, for example: lunch and break times for pupils with social/interaction impairments, after-school clubs for pupils with physical impairments, school trips for pupils with medical needs; There are very few parts of the school to which disabled pupils have limited or no access at the moment, following the building redevelopment in 2013.

### **Curriculum**

There are areas of the curriculum to which disabled pupils have limited or no access. Some areas of the curriculum present particular challenges, for example: PE for pupils with a physical impairment, science and technology for pupils with a visual impairment, humanities for pupils with learning difficulties. Other issues affect the participation of disabled pupils, for example: bullying, peer relationships, policies on the administration of medicines, the provision of personal care, the presence or lack of role models or images of disabled people, in effect, all the school's policies and procedures, written and unwritten.

### **Information**

Different forms of communication are made available to enable all disabled pupils to express their views and to hear the views of others. Access to information is planned, with a range of different formats available for disabled pupils, parents and staff.

### **Access Audit**

The school is a two storey building with corridors and several access points from outside. All doors except office door are key pad secured. Reception/Year 1 class is on the ground floor which wide door access to all rooms. The village hall is used for assemblies etc. It is at ground-floor level and is accessible to all.

The main entrance to the school is flat although there is a kerb to negotiate when moving from the main entrance to the village hall. The main entrance features a has been fitted with a low reception hatch, this being fully accessible to wheelchair users. The school has internal emergency signage and escape routes are clearly marked.

### **Management, coordination and implementation**

We will consult with experts when new situations regarding pupils with disabilities are experienced.

The Governors and Headteacher will work closely with the Local Authority.

## Action Plan

### 1) To increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum.

Our key objective is to reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to ensure full participation in the school community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success Criteria
To liaise with local nurseries and preschools to review potential intake for Sept 18	identify pupils who may need additional to or different from provision for Sept 18 intake	Sept 2017/2017	HT EYFS teacher	Procedures/equipment / ideas set in place by Sept 2018.
To review all statutory policies to ensure that they reflect inclusive practice and procedure	To comply with the Equality Act 2010	Ongoing 2018/20	HT All subject leaders	All policies clearly reflect inclusive practice and procedure
To establish closer liaison with parents	Regular parent information meetings- how to help, phonics.  Regular opportunities for parents to work in school – volunteer readers and forest school help  Invitation to celebration mornings and weekly celebration assemblies.	Ongoing	HT All Teachers	Clear collaborative working approach
To establish close liaison with outside agencies for pupils with ongoing health needs. Eg Children with visual impairment.	To ensure collaboration between all key personnel	Ongoing	HT TAs Outside agencies	Clear collaborative working approach
To ensure full access to the curriculum for all children.	-A differentiated curriculum with alternatives offered.	Ongoing	Teachers	Advice taken and strategies evident in classroom practice.

	-A range of support staff including trained teaching assistants -Multimedia activities to support most curriculum areas -Use of interactive ICT equipment -Specific equipment sourced from occupational therapy		SENCO Special school Ed Psych	ASD children supported and accessing curriculum.
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### SHORT TERM

Tasks/Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success Criteria
To refine analysis of attainment of all SEND pupils.	SENCO/Class teacher meetings/Pupil progress Scrutiny of assessment system Regular liaison with parents	Termly	Class teachers SENCO	Progress made towards IEP targets Provision mapping shows clear steps and progress made
To monitor attainment of Able, G & T pupils	Policy and Able G&T list to be updated Able G&T booster groups/activities Monitor Able G&T list	Ongoing Annually	Able G&T co-ordinator Class teachers	Able G&T children making proportionate progress. Achieving above average results

### MEDIUM TERM

To promote the involvement of disabled pupils in classroom discussions/activities To take account of variety of learning styles when teaching	Within the Curriculum, the school aims to provide full access to all aspects of the curriculum by providing (where appropriate) Wheelchair access	Ongoing	Whole school approach	Variety of learning styles and multi- sensory activities evident in planning and in the classrooms. Ensuring that the needs of all disabled pupils, parents and
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	Screen magnifier software for the visually impaired Features such as sticky keys and filter keys to aid disabled users in using a keyboard Giving alternatives to enable disabled pupils to participate successfully in lessons Creating positive images of disability within the school so that pupils grow into adults who have some understanding of the needs of disabled people.			staff are represented within the school.
To evaluate and review the above short and long term targets annually	See above	Annually	HT/Staff/ Governors	All children making good progress.
To deliver findings to the Governing Body	Finance and Premises and Curriculum Governors meetings	Annually Termly SEN Governor / SENCO meetings	SENCO SEN Governor	Governors fully informed about SEN provision and progress

**2)To improve the physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services.**

Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success Criteria
Improve physical environment of school environment	The school will take account the needs of pupils, staff and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.	Ongoing	All staff	Enabling needs to be met where possible.
Ensure visually stimulating environment for all children	Colourful, lively displays in classrooms and inviting role play areas.	Ongoing	Teaching and non-teaching staff	Lively and inviting environment maintained.
Ensuring all with a disability are able to be involved.	Create access plans for individual disabled children as part of targets process. Undertake confidential survey of staff and governors to ascertain access needs and make sure they are met in the school and meetings etc.	With immediate effect, to be constantly reviewed	Teaching and non-teaching staff	Enabling needs to be met where possible.

	Include questions in the confidential pupil information questionnaire about parents/carers' access needs and ensure they are met in all events.			
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### SHORT/MEDIUM TERM

Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success Criteria
To ensure that the medical needs of all pupils are met fully within the capability of the school.	To conduct parent interviews, liaise with external agencies, identifying training needs and establish individual protocols where needed.	With immediate effect to be constantly reviewed	Head Teacher SBM External professionals	
Ensuring disabled parents have every opportunity to be involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify accessible parking spaces for disabled to drop off &amp; collect children</li> <li>• offer a telephone call to explain letters home for some parents who need this</li> <li>• adopt a more proactive approach to identifying the access requirements of disabled parents</li> </ul>	With immediate effect to be constantly reviewed	Whole school team With immediate effect to be constantly reviewed	To ensure that disabled parents are not discriminated against and are encouraged to take interest and be involved in their child's education

Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success Criteria
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To improve community links	School to continue to have strong links with schools in the area and the wider community.	Ongoing	All staff	Improved awareness of diverse abilities in the wider world and Improved community cohesion
Continue to develop playgrounds and facilities.	Look for funding opportunities	Ongoing	Whole school approach	Inclusive child-friendly play areas.
To ensure driveway, roads, paths around school are as safe as possible.	Shared responsibilities for supervision of pupils	Ongoing	H/T	No accidents

## SHORT/MEDIUM TERM

### 3) To improve the delivery of information to disabled pupils and parents.

Targets	Strategies	Timescale	Responsibilities	Success Criteria
All parents receive information in format most suitable for them	Regular communication with parents	Ongoing	Class teacher	Two-way communication in place.
To ensure all children with ASD/Specific Learning Difficulties have access to the curriculum	Regular parental communication Individualised multi-sensory teaching strategies used for ASD children.	Ongoing	All staff to be aware	Children with ASD/SpLD able to access curriculum.
To enable improved access to written information for pupils, parents and visitors.	-Investigate software to support learners with reading difficulties.			

	<p>-Raising awareness of font size and page layouts will support pupils with visual impairments.</p> <p>-Auditing the school library to ensure the availability of large font and easy read texts will improve access.</p> <p>-Check signage around the school to ensure that is accessible to all. eg sans serif, clear print, a mixture of upper and lower case letters</p>			
<p>To review children's records ensuring school's awareness of any disabilities</p>	<p>-Information collected about new children.</p> <p>-Records passed up to each class teacher.</p> <p>-End of year class teacher meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical forms updated annually for all children</li> <li>• Personal health plans</li> <li>• Significant health problems – children's photos displayed on staffroom notice board / info kept in separate file in staffroom.</li> </ul>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>Class teachers Outside agencies</p>	<p>Each teacher/staff member aware of disabilities of children in their classes</p>

In school record system to be reviewed and improved where necessary.	Record keeping system to be reviewed.	Continual review and improvement	H/T	Effective communication of information about disabilities throughout school.
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