



Primary School & Nursery
Making A Difference

Boroughbridge Primary School & Nursery **Accessibility Policy and Plan.**

Introduction & purpose:

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”.

The purpose of this policy is to state the access arrangements in place to help comply with the Equality Act 2010. It is also designed to outline the term disability and say how the school environment reflects the diversity of all abilities. This policy will also underpin the Accessibility Plan which 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 current Plan will be appended to this document.

Disability definition

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.

School aims & values:

At Boroughbridge Primary School & Nursery we are committed to working together and making a difference to children’s lives by working together in a caring and nurturing way. We aim to make our school a happy and safe place to learn where we:

- Provide a positive, stimulating and creative learning environment within a safe, happy and secure community;
- Foster links with families to ensure continuity of care;
- Nurture life skills for the future;
- Value achievement and celebrate every success;
- Encourage high expectations in all aspects of learning;
- Ensure equality and opportunity for all;
- Promote an awareness and acceptance of diversity;
- Support effort, perseverance and pride.



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Accessibility aims:

At Boroughbridge Primary School & Nursery we:

- **Aim to increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum**
- **Aim to improve its physical environment to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of the education, benefits, facilities and services provided.**
- **Aim to improve the availability of accessible information for disabled pupils.**

The Boroughbridge Primary School Accessibility Policy & 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 such as the health and safety team. 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.

The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Disability & Equality opportunities policy, 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.

Boroughbridge Primary School & Nursery 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.

The Boroughbridge Primary School & Nursery 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:-

- 1) 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;
- 2) Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary – this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable timeframe;

- 3) 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.
- 4) The Boroughbridge Primary School & Nursery Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.
- 5) Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.
- 6) This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:
 - Asset Management Plan
 - Behaviour Management Policy
 - Curriculum Policy
 - Disabilities & Equal Opportunities Policy
 - Health & Safety Policy
 - Inclusion Policy
 - School Prospectus
 - School Improvement Plan
 - Special Educational Needs & Disability Policy
- 7) 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.
- 8) 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.
- 9) The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.
- 10) The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Governor Finance and Premises Committee.
- 11) The school will work in partnership with the Local Authority in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.

Agreed by governors: March 2017

Next Review: February 2020