



Diocese of Salisbury

Academy Trust

'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'



Beechcroft St. Paul's
CE Primary School

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

Policy Date: January 2023

Review Date: January 2025

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

Introduction

Schools, Academies and Local Authorities need to carry out accessibility planning for disabled pupils in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Legal Framework

The Equality Act 2010 places a legal obligation on schools making it unlawful to discriminate against students, staff and other stake holders with a disability. This Act brings together several different equality laws including the SEND Disability Act 2001 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. The Act also places an anticipatory duty on schools to consider what reasonable adjustments need to be made to improve access to the school's services for any stake holder with a disability, including pupils, staff, parents and carers and any other visitors to school, without waiting until the adjustment is actually needed.

This policy sets out the proposals of the governors to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties set out in the Disability Discrimination Act:-

1. To increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
2. To improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
3. To improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

This Accessibility policy has been developed in consultation with staff and governors of the school and covers the period June 2017 to June 2019.

Access to buildings and classrooms

In the main, all areas of the school are accessible by all children and their parents.

Areas in our school	Features
Main building	<p>All classrooms have flat entrances and exits.</p> <p>There is provision of 1 disabled toilet (NB a wheelchair would need help)</p> <p>Corridors are wide enough for wheelchairs to be used.</p> <p>Light switches and door handles are low fitted.</p> <p>Classrooms have ramps for outside access with the exception of Eden pre-school, which has an alternative route with a ramp.</p>
Hall	<p>Main entrances are flat or have a ramp allowing for easy wheelchair access.</p> <p>Fire exits in hall are flat and free from obstruction.</p>
Beech Hut	<p>Assistance needed for wheelchairs.</p> <p>Accessible toilet available.</p>
Playground, Astroturf area and Secret Garden	Available for all pupils. Access is available without the need to use steps.
School entrance paths	All clear of steps allowing easy access for all pupils and parents.
St Paul's Church, Abbotsbury Road	Wheelchair access available.

Evacuation Procedures

The DSAT Academies Fire and Emergency Evacuation policy lays down the basic procedures for the safe efficient evacuation of the school buildings.

These procedures will be adapted to meet the specific needs of an individual. Such procedures will be discussed with the pupils and parents and will be set out in the Education Health Care Plan for the pupil.

Curriculum Access: Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

Our aim is that pupils with disabilities should as far as possible have access to a full and broad curriculum, similar to that followed by their peers.

We have successfully supported pupils with a range of disabilities – hearing and sight impairment and learning difficulties of varying degrees. Decisions are taken on an individual basis following a full assessment of a child's needs. Such assessment is carried out within

the terms of the school's SEND Policy and guidelines on assessing children who may have Special Educational Needs.

Access to the curriculum is a key issue for consideration at the stage of admission, transition within the school or when a disability develops. The Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) for the pupil will address the issue, which will therefore be kept under constant review.

Advice is sought from the appropriate national and local agencies. Support can come in a variety of formats through the school's staged intervention strategy.

- Input from specialist (external) teachers
- Technological enhancements – induction loops, ICT
- Adaptation of teaching materials

The School's computer network does provide appropriate access to pupils in all locations.

In constructing the school timetable the school will give sympathetic consideration to individual needs. Also, furniture, seating arrangements and the classroom used can be altered to facilitate access and learning.

In conjunction with the school's SENCO teachers will assess a pupil's need for support with assessment procedures. This will include both internal assessment procedures and external assessment such as those associated with national tests or national qualifications.

The school has an on-going programme of staff development related to meeting the needs of different learners. Specific training on the needs of pupils with hearing or sight impairment and those with specific learning difficulties is carried out as required.

Informal Curriculum

Pupils at Beechcroft CE Primary School have always been able to participate fully in the wide range of activities beyond the classroom consistent with the limitations imposed by any disability. This has included:-

- Outdoor Education
- Sports
- Music
- Clubs and activities
- Excursions and trips

Arrangements for play, recreation and other aspects of a child's social development are incorporated into a child's Individual Education Plan.

The suitability of any event and the need for additional support is discussed full with parents in advance.

Information for Pupils and Parents

Parents are routinely involved in reviewing provision for their child. The child will also be involved.

Large print format materials are available when required.

If either pupils or parents have difficulty accessing information normally provided in writing by the school such as handouts, newsletters, homework etc, then the school will be happy to consider alternative forms of provision.