



MARY DEAN'S C. of E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA). It draws on the guidance set out in "Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils", issued by DfES in July 2002.

Some parts of the school's buildings are well designed to meet the needs of disabled pupils:

- Three classrooms are situated on the ground floor; access to four other classrooms is possible using a different entrance.
- Use of these classrooms can be rotated to meet pupil's needs.
- Some public-access rooms, including the front entrances, toilets and meeting rooms are on the ground floor, with no steps. The hall is accessible via a different entrance.
- A disabled toilet is installed in the main building and in the Nursery building.
- A disabled parking bay is available.
- A ramp is available to the main school entrance, the hall, and to the Key Stage One entrance.

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):

"A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities".

Key Objectives

To reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, prospective pupils and our adult users with a disability.

Principles

- Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEND policy.
- The school recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA):
- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- To publish an Accessibility Plan

1. In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (2002).
2. The school recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.
3. The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
 - Setting suitable learning challenges
 - Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
 - Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual and groups of pupils

Activity

Mary Dean's C. of E. Primary School has identified the following points for action as part of its School Improvement Plan, in order to achieve the key objectives:

Delivery of the curriculum

- School staff receive training in making the curriculum accessible to all pupils, and are aware of its importance.
- The school will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA or Plymouth Learning Partnership services, such as specialist teachers, advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.
- The school has an in-house electronic system to track the academic performance of all pupils.
- Additional support is provided for all classes to support children with learning difficulties.
- The SENDCO works with dedicated staff to plan support provision for the children with the highest level of need.

Physical environment

The school will take account of the needs of pupils and other users with physical difficulties and other impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises.

In particular:

- Ramps to the two main doorways will be provided
- Access via a ramp is provided to the Nursery building
- The main flights of steps are painted to improve visibility and an anti slip surface will be provided
- External lighting is provided

Provision of information in other formats

The school is aware of local services, including those provided through the LA or Plymouth Learning Partnership for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- School Improvement Plan
- Staff Development Plan
- SEND Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Curriculum Policies

Date of Plan: November 2020

Date of Review: Autumn 2021