



# WINCHCOMBE SCHOOL

## Accessibility Policy

**Effective Date: April 2015**

**Review Date: Dec 20, Dec 21**

**Review Period: November 2022**

**Review Committee: FGB**

**Adopted**

**FGB**

**Date**

**FGB 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

# 1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled students can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled students to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled students

Our school aims to treat all its students fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all students without discrimination of any kind.

Winchcombe School makes every effort to ensure all students have access to all aspects of school life, be that curriculum or the physical environment. We will ensure adjustments are made to ensure we maintain the inclusive nature of our school.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The school supports a number of local partnerships to develop and implement the plan. We work closely with the local authority and other external agencies and ensure we have clear communications and clarity of information about any students joining our community to ensure a smooth transitions and successful integration into our school.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

# 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#).

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled 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 undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for students with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled student faces in comparison with non-disabled students. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### 3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim	Current good practice	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
<b>Increase access to the curriculum for students with a disability</b>	<p>Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We use resources tailored to the needs of students who require support to access the curriculum.</li> <li>Curriculum progress is tracked for all students, including those with a disability</li> <li>Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for students with additional needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities</li> <li>The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET time for department leads to develop effective measures to ensure suitable adjustments are made to include all students</li> </ul>	SC/ST/HoDs	Jan/Feb 2022	All students feel included and acknowledged
<b>Improve and maintain access to the physical environment</b>	<p>The environment is adapted to the needs of students as required.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional ramps installed throughout school DDA compliant</li> <li>Lift access in main building with EVAC chair installed for emergency escape and staff trained in its use</li> <li>Corridor width</li> <li>Disabled parking bays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school site provides a safe environment for partially sighted students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Contrasting colour markings around the school site (i.e stairs, raised edges and pillars) to ensure provision for partially sighted</li> </ul>	KF/PH	November 2022	All risk areas have visible markings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessible toilets and changing facilities new Nov 21</li> <li>• Hygiene room with Hoist completed Nov 21</li> <li>• Sports Centre has accessible sports facilities and fittings including Basketball fittings that can be lowered</li> <li>• Most Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height</li> </ul> <p>Full audit of schools DDA compliance was undertaken during the planning phase of the expansion project.</p>					
<p><b>Improve the delivery of information to students with a disability</b></p>	<p>Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal signage</li> <li>• Large print resources</li> <li>• Pictorial or symbolic representations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to monitor information to ensure it is accessible to all students in classrooms and around the school site</li> <li>• Ensure enlarged resources are always made available to any students with a visual impairment.</li> </ul>	<p>Further work with teachers and site staff to ensure information is clear to all students.</p>	<p>PG/KF</p>	<p>Feb 2022</p>	<p>All students feel included and confident when using resources in class.</p> <p>All students feel confident about movements around the school site.</p>

#### 4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every 3 years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by Governors at Full Governing Board and Resources Meetings

## 5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting students with medical conditions policy

## Appendix 1: Accessibility audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of storeys	2	None- already accessible due to lift. Evac Chair and staff trained in the event of emergency evacuation		N/A
Corridor access	All wide enough to accommodate wheelchair access, current gym can be difficult to access	Access to gym will be improved with building works and a new hygiene room installed.	KF	July 2021 (dependent on building works)
Lifts	1	None except ongoing maintenance	KF	N/A
Parking bays	2	None		N/A
Entrances	Entrances to all buildings are compliant.	Although compliant, access will be improved in the gym area during building work	KF	July 2021 (dependent on building works)
Ramps	At all access points to school	Temporary ramp to be replaced with permanent ramps	KF	July 2021 (dependent on building works)
Toilets	2	Hygiene room and additional toilet facilities to be built - <b>This has been completed and handed over</b>	KF	July 2021 (dependent on building works)

Reception area	Compliant, wide door and ramp	Possibly create a disabled toilet in reception for visitors	KF	July 2021 (dependent on building works)
Internal signage	Maintain good	Review contrasting colour markings for partially sighted	KF	April 2021 (dependent on building works)
Lighting	LED Lighting has been installed to improve lighting in all areas	Ongoing maintenance	KF	On going
Emergency escape routes	All escape routes compliant- Evac Chair on second story with trained staff	Maintain servicing and training for Evac Chair	KF	On-going