

Accessibility Policy

2022-25

Date Reviewed	Reviewed by	Approved by (Governor Committee)	Next Review
June 2022	Governors		June 2025

Vision Statement

Our school is committed to providing premises suitable and sufficient for all educational purposes and giving access to a broad and balanced curriculum for all children and young people, irrespective of special need or disability. This Accessibility Plan considers provision for disabled pupils as stated in the Equality Act (2010) and the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years (2014)

Definition of Disability

The Equality Act (2010) states that a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has an adverse, substantial, and long-term effect on their ability to carry out normal daily activities.

Physical or mental impairments can include sensory impairments (such as those affecting sight and hearing) and learning difficulties. The definition also covers certain medical conditions when they have a long-term and substantial effect on the everyday lives of children and young people.

Some specified medical conditions (HIV, multiple sclerosis, and cancer) are all considered as disabilities, regardless of their effect. Children and young people with such conditions do not necessarily have SEN, but there is a significant overlap between disabled children and young people and those with SEN.

Equality Act (2010)

The Equality Act has simplified and strengthened the discrimination laws that protect people from unfair treatment. It is unlawful for Carfield Primary School or another education provider to treat a disabled child or young person unfavorably.

We commit to taking all reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled children and young people at a substantial disadvantage (the 'reasonable adjustment' duty).

Scope of the Accessibility Plan

This Plan covers all three main strands of the planning duty by:

1. Managing and improving the physical environment of Carfield Primary School to increase the extent to which disabled children and young people can take advantage of education and associated services. We aim to meet the needs of a range of children and young people currently on the roll and any prospective pupils.

2. Ensuring that the curriculum is differentiated to meet the learning needs of children and young people with SEN and disabilities, and making target setting effective and personalised for these pupils. Written material, usually provided for all pupils, is to be presented, in an appropriate form where necessary, for SEN and disabled children and young people, including pictorial and oral and Braille formats. Classroom organisation is planned to maximise learning opportunities and to increase the extent to which disabled children and young people can participate in the curriculum at Carfield Primary School.

3. Ensuring that appropriate support is given to all students with disabilities and that staff who work with these children are fully aware of their needs. We will seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN advisers, and appropriate health professionals from the NHS Trusts.

Aims

Carfield Primary School will take reasonable steps to ensure that disabled pupils are not placed at a substantial disadvantage compared to non-disabled peers.

In considering what is reasonable, the School will take into account:

- The practicalities of making adjustments
- Health and Safety factors
- Carfield Primary School budget situation
- The interests of other pupils
- The need to maintain academic standards

All reasonable steps will be taken to ascertain the disabilities of pupils. Consultation with parents and external agencies will determine strategies to support disabled pupils within the School. Relevant information will be passed on to staff to ensure staff awareness.

Planning Duty

The School recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by SENDA):

- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in its 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.

Carfield Primary School is committed to an inclusive curriculum and increasing access to the facilities for all by:

1. Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the School's curriculum. This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the School such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits.

2. Improving access to the physical environment of the Carfield Primary School where possible. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the School and physical aids to allow pupils to access education.

3. Improving the delivery of written information to disabled pupils. This will include planning to make the written information that is normally provided by the School to its pupils, available to disabled pupils, e.g., larger print / Braille.

Consultation with pupils, parents and disabled people

The School is committed to liaising with staff, pupils, parents and other stakeholders to evaluate existing provisions and plan for the future needs of the Carfield Primary School and its users.

Audit of existing provision

Curriculum

- Inclusive venues for residential visits have been identified.
- A range of intervention programmes is available to support children with learning difficulties and disabilities, based on the recommendations of external specialists and the skills and experience of teaching and support staff.
- All pupils are encouraged to take part in a range of physical activities, with modifications where needed.
- The School monitors all visits and clubs to maximise availability and participation for all pupils.
- Staff are trained in the administration of emergency aid, with emergency medicines designed to deal with specific conditions and associated with specific disabilities being administered by specifically identified staff under instruction from parents and medical experts.

Site Accessibility: Physical Environment

• Carfield Primary School currently has four buildings consisting of two floors in one of those buildings' floors.

• **Ground floor: The main building** is made up of teaching spaces, offices, an Intervention space office, hall and storage facilities. Few areas are accessible for mobility-impaired users.

• The **first floor** is made up of teaching spaces and storage space. Few areas are easily accessible for mobility impaired; there are no passenger lifts.

• **Ground floor: B building** is made up of teaching spaces, hall and storage facilities. Some areas are accessible for mobility-impaired users.

• **The modular building** is made up of teaching spaces. Some areas are accessible for mobility-impaired users.

• **Lower building:** is made up of 2 kitchens, a hall, toilets, and storage facilities. Some areas are accessible for mobility-impaired users.

Written Information

Advice is sought from external agencies when needed, for example, those dealing with Speech & Language and Visual Impairment etc.

The School aims to keep up to date with available technology and practices to support individual pupils with learning difficulties or disabilities, drawing on advice from the Support Services.

Policies

Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the Carfield Primary School's aim and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN/Inclusion Policy.

The Access Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related School policies.

Reviewing, Monitoring and Evaluating the Plan

1. Adequate resources will be allocated to enable the implementation of the plan.

2. The plan will be informed by feedback from parents, pupils and people with disabilities.

3. The plan will be kept under review and revised as necessary.

4. The plan will be published and is available on request, along with comments about progress.

5. The plan will be subject to monitoring by OFSTED during inspections.