

Accessibility Plan

Reviewed by: Governing Body

Approved: January 2024

Review Date: January 2027

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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.

Marshland High School (as part of West Norfolk Academies Trust) aims to treat all its students fairly, with respect and promote equality of access.

The plan is available online on the school website.

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

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

If you have any complaint relating to accessibility in school, the Trust complaints procedure should be followed.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of <u>schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010</u> and the Department for Education (DfE) <u>guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010</u>.

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 <u>Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice</u>, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes physical impairments, cognitive impairments and sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer. People with 'Hidden' disabilities should also be considered.

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 Include established practice and practice under development	OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS/STRATEGIES	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
Increase access to the curriculum for students with a disability	Our school offers a curriculum which is adapted and scaffolded as appropriate to support the needs of all learners, including SEND	All staff are continually trained to employ quality first teaching strategies in the first instance in response to individual needs	Curriculum continually adapted in response to changing needs as informed by the SENDCO/SEND leads	Head and SENDCO to oversee	Ongoing	Students making expected or better progress. Quality assurances ensure this is embedded in lessons and across the curriculum
	We use resources tailored to the needs of students who require support to access the curriculum. Staff follow	Ensuring all staff have the relevant training from outside agencies where appropriate to	Continued use of the SEND referral system by all staff	SENDCO	Ongoing	Staff are confident at using suggested strategies, Students
	'Quality First Teaching' and Teach to the Top and scaffold. There are no 'lids on learning.'	support the specific needs of some of our most vulnerable students	Plan and deliver bespoke training opportunities with outside agencies when the need arises	SENDCO/DHT	Ongoing	benefit from an adapted delivery of curriculum appropriate to needs
	Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities Curriculum progression is	Ensure that we have succession planning in place for specialist roles within Learning Support so that we will always	Specialist teams are established in SEND. Training is shared collegiately	SENDCO/DHT	Sep 24	High quality teaching continues to be a strength at MHS
	tracked for all students, including those with a disability	have the expertise required within the team despite changes to staff	Performance management includes a specific SEND target for all teaching staff.	PM Link to advise and direct training needs for staff	Oct 23	Staff training and qualifications in

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	Learning goals and targets are set effectively and are appropriate for students with additional needs The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all students All departments have designated staff who lead on SEND issues. These staff meet regularly at SEND conferences. Individual audits to support site access are undertaken for each intake and mid-year joiners	A member of the PE team to continue to build on the accessibility for SEND students in PE Complete external accreditation for supporting SEND pupils	Designated SEND lead for PE to continually review SEND provision in PE SENCO to explore which accreditation is most suitable for the school		Ongoing July 2025	place to ensure the learning and physical needs of all students are met External accreditation awarded
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	The environment is adapted to the needs of students as required This includes: Ramps Disabled parking bays Disabled toilets and changing facilities Access to resource areas such as the library	Students with specific needs have all the appropriate equipment and furniture Personal evacuation plans (PEEPs) for identified vulnerable students.	Purchase of specialised ergonomic chairs to assist access to the school environment as needed Review and develop PEEPs for specific students. Teachers/staff/APSAs informed of which students they are responsible for in an	SENDCO	Latest purchases made to accommodate transfer of student Ongoing	In place Identified students are aware of their PEEP. Completed PEEPs in place for all identified students.

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	Access to classrooms		emergency situation. Peeps forms are stored with Site Manager and SEND lead and brought to the evacuation point			
		Timetables for identified students are continually checked to ensure designated classrooms in each subject area are accessible both in size and positioning in the school building. i.e. Wheelchair users not timetabled in upper floor classrooms	Staff are continually informed of all students with mobility issues and create a suitable timetable to meet their need	DHT/SENDCO	Ongoing	All identified students are timetabled in appropriate classrooms to meet their needs
		Ramps throughout site are safe to use. Where space is a limiting factor, risk assessments in place	Ramps assessments completed by MJ Remedial works as	Site Manager Site Manager	September 2022 – 2025 in line with plan	Ramps reviewed Some replaced Risk Assessments in place
		for how students will egress in an emergency. To ensure that all new	Risk Assessments or Evacuation plans in place	Site Manager	Ongoing, new buildings and sites to be included	Wheelchair users
		and existing buildings and rooms allow independent access for all	New plans to be closely monitored. Ensure total compliance with building and DDA regulations. If/where possible -	SENDCO/Site Manager	To be discussed as new builds planned	able to access site more readily

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			Increase the number of automated doorways for students who would ordinarily rely on APSA or teacher support to open doors Ensure that all fire exits are suitable for all students, including those with mobility issues			All students with VI are able to navigate successfully around school safely In place All students are able to independently access all areas of school both internally and externally Students are able to independently navigate the whole building unaided. With the exception of upper story classrooms. (no lift available)
Improve the delivery of information to students with a disability	Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible	To ensure all students continue to receive communication in accessible formats	Ensure assessments and exams such as GCSE papers are modified	Exam officer/SENDCO	Ongoing	Strong links between exams officer/SENDCO/DHT
	This includes: • Internal signage • Large print resources • Braille*		Resources are modified as appropriate	Staff/SENDCO Site manager	Ongoing	Effective use of resources by all students

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	 Induction or portable loops available in some areas of school Pictorial or symbolic representations Technology solutions 		New signage is reviewed to ensure it is accessible			Clear information is displayed for all, including visitors
	*A reassessment of braille provision will be required if we had students with specific needs joining the school					

4. Monitoring arrangements

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

It will be approved by Local Governing Body.

5. Links with other policies

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

- Health and safety policy
- Equality duty statement and objectives
- Special educational needs disability (SEND) information report
- Supporting students with medical conditions policy

NB – Some of these policies referred to are Trust policies, and are available on the WNAT website