



School Accessibility Plan

London Meed Community Primary School

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. This has been updated in the new SEN code of practice (2014). Please see the separate SEN policy.

London Meed School is well equipped to meet the needs of physically disabled pupils, staff and visitors and a number of alterations have been made as part of the Schools Access Initiative:

- the building is on one level
- the main entrance is fully accessible and equipped automatic sliding doors
- a disabled parking bay is provided
- the disabled toilet facility was upgraded in 2004 and incorporates shower facilities
- induction hearing loops are fitted in the administration office and main hall

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 Objective

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 SEN 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.
- In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) Code of Practice (2002).
- 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.
- 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

London Meed School has identified the following activities in order to achieve the key objective:

a) Delivery of the curriculum

The school will continue to seek and follow the advice of LEA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.

[Page 29 of DFES guidance]

b) Physical environment

The school will take account of the needs of pupils and other users with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

In particular:

- Investigate options for including visual indicators on alarm system
- Review provision of signage

[Page 30 of DFES guidance]

c) Provision of information in other formats

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

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Linked Policies

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

- School Improvement Plan
- Staff Development Plan
- SEN policy
- Equal Opportunities policy
- curriculum policies

This plan is linked to the London Meed School Intimate Care Policy.

Appendix

Date of Plan: October 2014

Date of Review: October 2017

The plan was approved by the Full Governing Body meeting on: TBC.

The plan is also available in the following formats, on request to the school:

- email

- enlarged print version

- other formats by arrangement