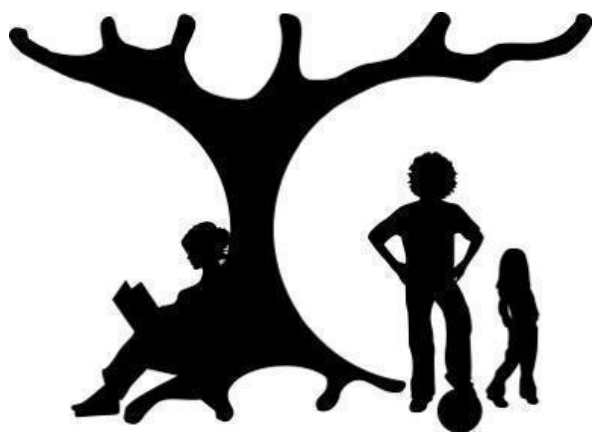




New Forest Small School

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Member of Staff Responsible	Headteacher
Regularity of Review	Every Three Years
Approved By	Lead Proprietor
Last reviewed	May 2025

Contents

1. Aims
2. Legislation and guidance
3. Action plan
4. Monitoring arrangements
5. Links with other policies

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 pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities

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

The New Forest Small School is committed to the provision of equal opportunities for all. Our aim in writing this policy is, to the best of our ability, to ensure that pupils and staff members are enabled, supported and encouraged to participate

fully in all aspects of school life, and to benefit from the school's facilities and activities to the same extent as those without protected characteristics.

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 any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, the complaints procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns. As with all complaints, we ask parents to raise concerns informally first, usually with the Headteacher, and only to escalate a complaint if it is felt that an appropriate response has not been made.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including pupils, parents, staff and school advisors.

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 they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their 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 pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a pupil with disabilities faces in comparison with a pupil without disabilities. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

3. Action plan

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

Curriculum Accessibility

Aim	Current good practice	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
To ensure all children who attend our setting are able to access a full curriculum	Differentiation for all current pupils ensures curriculum is accessible to all	Whenever a child with disabilities joins the school, a review will be carried out in order to establish	The headteacher and SENDCo	Ongoing	We continue to provide a full curriculum for all pupils in our setting, including those with disabilities.

		whether any adaptations need to be introduced to ensure that they can access a full curriculum.			
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Physical accessibility

Aim	Current good practice	Actions to be taken	Person(s) responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
To ensure wheelchair users can access all areas of the school building	Ramps lead into both main building and studio All areas are accessible to our current pupils.	To explore ways to make the upstairs parts of the school accessible to a pupil/staff member using a wheelchair, including feasibility and potential costs.	Headteacher, with support of SLT and Advisory Board	Information should be collated by the end of 2025-26 academic year	We will have established whether it is possible to accommodate a pupil/staff member with a wheelchair in our upstairs classrooms, and what the potential

		To look into safety considerations, such as the need for an evacuation lift.			costs/implications of doing so would be. This would include exploring the potential of installing an evacuation lift
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Information accessibility

Aim	Current good practice	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
To ensure that information is accessible to those with a range of disabilities, such as visual impairment or hearing impairment.	Information is accessible to all our current pupils/parents	Explore how we can provide information in a range of formats, so we are prepared for if a pupil/parent/member of staff joins us with a disability that requires	Headteacher	Information gathering to be completed by end of 2026-27 academic year.	We are better prepared in how we can provide information in a range of formats

		information being adapted.			
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4. Monitoring arrangements

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

It will be approved by the lead proprietor.

5. Links with other policies

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

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- SEND policy
- Exclusion policy
- Behaviour policy

These can be found on the school website <https://www.newforestsmallschool.com/school-policies>