

## Holland Moor Primary School, Cornbrook, Skelmersdale

### SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

#### 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.

Our building should be well designed to meet the needs of disabled pupils:

- all classrooms are on the ground floor;
- use of these classrooms can be rotated to meet pupil's needs;
- all public-access rooms, including front and back entrances, toilets, library and hall are on the ground floor, with no steps;
- we have 3 disabled toilets.

#### Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 [DDA]:

'A person has a disability if he / she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his / 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

1. compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN policy;
2. 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 substantial disadvantage
  - to publish an Accessibility Plan.
3. in performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC code of Practice [2002].
4. 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.
5. 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

encloses 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**

Holland Moor has identified the following points for action as part of its School Improvement Plan in order to achieve the key objective;

### **A] Delivery of the curriculum**

School staff to receive training in making the curriculum accessible to all pupils and to be aware of its importance.

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

In particular:

*Identify pupils who are underachieving:* Implement PAT. Implement new recording and target setting procedures, analyse data regularly, introduce appropriate intervention strategies. Revise staffing to facilitate small group work. Record and monitor progress against targets set. Records to be scrutinised by assessment team.

*Monitor uptake of extra-curricular activities by pupils with SEN/disabilities:* Maintain list of all pupils taking part in ECAs. Monitored by Headteacher.

*Liaise with other agencies re stated pupils access to the curriculum:* Full risk assessments completed before all educational visits – liaise with venues re adaptations. Provide extra staff support for all vulnerable pupils. Discuss expectations with pupils prior to visits. Educational visits co-ordinator to monitor.

*Actively encourage disabled parents to fully participate in school life* – ensure that staff are available if necessary to discuss issues with parents. Ensure that parents' needs are met. Encourage all parents to be involved in governing body and FHM. Headteacher to monitor.

*Improve KS2 outside play areas.*

*All staff to participate in accessibility training through in-service and attending outside agency training.*

*Training for all staff on improving pupil access to the curriculum.*

### **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.

*Improve the physical environment to meet the current and anticipatory needs of pupils : identify need for improved disabled access and security at the front of school – new entrance planned. Liaise with parents of any pupils with disabilities re accessibility.*

*To improve the disabled toilet provision.*

*Audit of foundation stage physical environment and to improve accessibility.*

*Increase knowledge and competence in handling techniques for children with physical disabilities.*

*Increase pupils awareness of disability issues.*

*Improve outside play areas to meet the needs of all children.*

*Create two designated disabled parking bays in the front main car park.*

*Create a wildlife garden which is accessible to all.*

*To audit all teaching/non-teaching areas on the basis of recommendations made by accessibility team.*

*To provide a fully accessible site for all pupils, including facilities to aid their physical capabilities through PE.*

*Review position of bollards.*

*Ensure appropriate signage on site.*

*Ensure appropriate amount of dropped kerbage.*

*Clean and ensure all paving suitable and level.*

*Split level reception counter.*

*Height of door handles to be adjusted.*

*Two doors to be widened.*

### **C] Provision of information in other formats**

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

#### **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.