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Accessibility Improvement Plan

BENTLEY NEW VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: kirsten mckechnie

2017 2019

**Accessibility Improvement Plan**

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| **PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY: APPROVED: SLT** | **Rachel Emery** |
| **DATE: September 2017** |
| **SIGNED:** R.Emery | **KIRSTEN MCKECHNIE: HEADTEACHER** |
| **TO BE REVIEWED:** | **December 2019** |

**OUR SCHOOL VISION**

Together we will create a calm and welcoming learning environment and work together to secure success for all. We will strive to create a safe, caring, supportive and inclusive school in which we will focus on excellent progress within traditional core subjects whilst providing a rich and exciting curriculum.

We believe that our school should equip its pupils with the skills that society and the local community demand and so we will value the skills and learning that children need in order to look after themselves, their families, their health, their mental well-being and their bodies. We will strive to teach the whole child and create life-long learners and pro-active citizens.

All pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of physical and sporting activity, as part of the curriculum, as an extra-curricular activity and in competition with other schools. Through sport we will promote a love of physical activity, the spirit of fair play and the ability to be a team-player, a coach and a mentor.

We will encourage the development of individual flair, creativity, talent and personality and will always embrace differences and uniqueness. Our school will value a good sense of humour and celebrate the fun that can be had in learning and within our school.

**OUR SCHOOL VALUES**

Determination – Resilience – Tolerance – Cooperation – Creativity – Curiosity

**OUR SCHOOL AIMS**

* To raise the aspirations and life-expectations of each individual within our school so everyone strives for **personal excellence** in everything they do
* To provide outstanding learning and teaching which enables all pupils, regardless of gender, race, background or ability, to excel
* To help pupils and staff build on their strengths and overcome their weaknesses through development, mentoring and support
* To help pupils develop respect for others so that they can form tolerant and caring relationships and be sympathetic to the needs of other people, whoever they may be
* To provide pupils with a variety of experiences and the support they need to be healthy and active, to stay safe, to enjoy and achieve, to make a positive contribution and to achieve economic well-being
* To use the skills, knowledge, experience and talents of all staff to personalise the learning for each pupil
* To develop a culture of team work that promotes continuous improvement and the highest standards of achievement and conduct
* To be committed to providing a high quality programme of professional development and training.

Our mission statement, **“What Challenges us, Changes us”**

# ACCESSIBILITY PLAN – Updated Sept4em

1. This Accessibility Plan has been drawn up in consultation with the Local Authority, pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school and covers the period from September 2017 to September 2019
2. We are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
3. New Village School plans, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:

* Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
* Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA). 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. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
* Improve the delivery of **information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

1. Attached is the Accessibility Action Plan. The plans will be reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. New Plans will be drawn up every three years in conjunctionwith the Disability Equality Scheme Action Plan.
2. We acknowledge that there is a need for ongoing awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.
3. The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:

* Curriculum
* Equality and Diversity
* Health & Safety (including off-site safety)
* Special Educational Needs
* Inclusion
* Pupil Behaviour and Discipline
* School Improvement Plan
* Asset Management Plan
* School Prospectus
* Teaching and Learning Policy

1. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly by the Local Authority.
2. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published on the website.
3. The Plan will be monitored through the Education and the Welfare Committees of the Governors.

**Improving the Physical Access at New Village School**

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| **Target** | **Strategy** | **Outcome** | **Who?** | **Timescale** |
| To identify and remedy issues preventing unimpeded physical access to the school premises. | 1. To conduct an annual Access Audit and draw up a corresponding Action Plan. 2. To consider problems of physical access when conducting termly H&S Inspection. | 1. Action Plan submitted to Business Committee in order to modify physical premises as necessary. 2. Issues identified to be rectified. | Headteacher and Governors with refernce to other school users | 1. Access Audit to be completed by end of July each school year and submitted for action as soon as possible thereafter ready for the next academic year 2. Termly inspection and action as soon as possible. |
| To make appropriate physical modification to ensure unimpeded physical access where it becomes evident that a specific school user will encounter difficulties in achieving such access, or to devise appropriate strategy for management of specific issues within the existing physical arrangement. | To assess all school users and potential school users in order to identify possible difficulties and   1. Draw up an Action Plan for appropriate physical modification of the premises or 2. Draw up an appropriate Strategy Plan to manage the issue within the existing physical arrangement. | 1. Premises modified to permit unimpeded access for specific user or 2. Manage use of existing premises to accommodate needs of specific user. | Headteacher and Governors with refernce to other school users | Ongoing. |
| To ensure that additional or modified premises are as fully accessible as is practicable. | To identify existing and potential access needs at the initial stage of any building project. | New or modified premises are fully accessible for all existing or potential school users. | Headteacher and Governors with refernce to other school users | As necessary. |

**Improving the Curriculum Access at New Village School**

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| **Target** | **Strategy** | **Outcome** | **Who** | **Timescale** |
| Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum | Review the specific needs for pupils living with a disability, in terms of basic daily living skills, relationships and future aspirations. | Teachers are aware of the relevant issues and can ensure that this group has equality of access to life- preparation learning. The use of other professional partners has been made available. | All classroom staff | Ongoing. |
| All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils | Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation | All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements | School staff | Ongoing |
| Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils | Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases | Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual pupils | Teaching staff | .ongoing |
| Training for Awareness Raising of Disability Issues | Provide training for governors, staff, pupils and parents  Discuss perception of issues with staff to determine the current status of school | Whole school community aware of issues relating to Access | Headteacher/senior staff/SENCO | ongoing |
| School website to make reference to accessibility plan | To add details to prospectus | Reference in place |  | Completed |
| To clarify school position on Inclusion | Stand alone Inclusion Policy to replace present system of inclusion details spread across other policies | Policy adopted by Governors | SENCO | Completed |

**Improving the Delivery of Information at New Village School**

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| To increase accessibility to school information for the whole community | Review of present information delivery systems.  Use of Governor surgery notes, surveys, school council/pupil views, questionaires | Additional question on school enrollment forms | Headteacher  Office staff | ongoing |

**Signed:**

**Kirsten McKechnie – Headteacher – 10.9.17**

**Margaret Eyres – chair of Governors – 12.9.17**