



Willow Bank Primary School

Accessibility Plan

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Woodland Academy Trust is committed to inclusion, diversity and promoting equal opportunity for all. All schools within the Trust share this commitment, providing an inclusive environment.

This objective applies to all policies and procedures and the Trust will at all times adhere to the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 and any other associated guidance.

1. Aims of the Accessibility Plan

This plan outlines how Willow Bank Primary School aims to increase access to education for pupils with disabilities in the three areas required by the planning duties in the Equality Act 2010 (i.e. the curriculum, physical environment and information).

A person is regarded as having a disability under the Act where they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

This plan aims 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.

The above aims will be delivered within a reasonable timeframe, and in ways which are determined after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the views of parents and pupils. In the preparation of an accessibility strategy, the LA must have regard to the need to allocate adequate resources in the implementation of this strategy.

The governing board also recognises its responsibilities towards employees with disabilities and will:

- Monitor recruitment procedures to ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided with equal opportunities.
- Provide appropriate support and provision for employees with disabilities to ensure that they can carry out their work effectively without barriers.
- Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

The plan will be resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised in consultation with:

- Pupils' parents.
- The head teacher and other relevant members of staff.
- Governors.
- External partners.

This plan is reviewed every three years to take into account the changing needs of the school and its pupils. The plan is also reviewed where the school has undergone a refurbishment.

2. The accessibility audit

2.1. The governing board will undertake an annual Accessibility Audit.

2.2. The audit will cover the following three areas:

- **Access to the curriculum** – the governing board will assess the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access the curriculum on an equal basis with their peers.
- **Access to the physical environment** – the governing board will assess the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access the physical environment on an equal basis with their peers.

- **Access to information** – the governing board will assess the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access information on an equal basis with their peers.
- 2.3. When conducting the audit, the governing board will consider all kinds of disabilities and impairments, including, but not limited to, the following:
- **Ambulatory disabilities** – this includes pupils who use a wheelchair or mobility aid
 - **Dexterity disabilities** – this includes those whose everyday manual handling of objects and fixtures may be impaired
 - **Visual disabilities** – this includes those with visual impairments and sensitivities
 - **Auditory disabilities** – this includes those with hearing impairments and sensitivities
 - **Comprehension** – this includes hidden disabilities, such as autism and dyslexia
- 2.4. The findings from the audit will be used to identify short-, medium- and long-term actions to address specific gaps and improve access.
- 2.5. All actions will be carried out in a reasonable timeframe, and after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the preferences of their parents.
- 2.6. The actions that will be undertaken are detailed in the following sections of this document.

Planning duty 1: Curriculum

	Issue	What	Who	When	Outcome	Review
Short term	Need to explore whether the curriculum is accessible	Audit of the curriculum	Head teacher, teachers, SENCO	Spring 2021	Management and teaching staff are aware of the accessibility gaps in the curriculum	Summer 2021
	Need to develop skills to support pupils with SEND	INSET provided to staff members Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum	Head teacher, external advisors, SENDCO	Summer 2021	Staff members have the skills to support pupils with SEND	Autumn 2021
Medium term	School trips need to take into account pupils with SEND	Needs of pupils with SEND are incorporated into the planning process	Teachers, SENDCO	Spring 2022	Planning of school trips takes into account pupils with SEND	Autumn 2022
Long term	A need to improve access to lessons for children with SEND	Provide tablets and other adjustments for pupils with SEND	Head teacher, ICT manager, SENDCO	Autumn 2022	Pupils with SEND can access lessons	Spring 2023

Planning duty 2: Physical environment

	Issue	What	Who	When	Outcome	Review
Short term	Management to identify barriers to accessibility within the school's physical environment	Audit of physical environment	Building surveyors	Spring 2021	School is aware of accessibility barriers to its physical environment and will make a plan to address them	Ongoing due to regeneration of local area
Medium term	Learning environment of pupils with visual impairments is not accessible	Incorporation of appropriate colour schemes	SBM	Summer 2022	Learning environment is accessible to pupils with visual impairments	Autumn 2022
Long term	Children with physical disabilities cannot access all the school building	Construction work undertaken	SBM/building contractors	Summer 2022	School buildings are fully accessible	Autumn 2023

Planning duty 3: Information

	Issue	What	Who	When	Outcome	Review
Short term	Management to identify barriers to accessibility of school information	Audit of information and delivery procedures	SENDSCO, ICT manager	Spring 2021	School is aware of accessibility gaps to its information delivery procedures	Summer 2021
	School needs to know how to make written information accessible	Schools seeks advice from external advisors	SENDSCO	Summer 2021	School is aware of local services for converting written information into alternative formats	Autumn 2021
Medium term	Written information needs to be accessible to pupils with visual impairments	Provide written information in alternative formats Incorporate appropriate colour schemes when refurbishing and install window blinds	SENDSCO, ICT manager	Spring 2022	Written information is fully accessible to children with visual impairments	Summer 2022
Long term	School website needs to be accessible to children and adults with SEND	Audit of website	ICT manager SBM SENDSCO	Summer 2022	Website is fully accessible	Autumn 2023