

## **Accessibility Policy and Plan**

*This Accessibility Policy and Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on the progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.*

1. We are committed to providing an accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their educational, 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.
2. Park Mead School plans over time to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
3. An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three year period. The plan will be updated annually.
4. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
  - Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
  - Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that these pupils are as equally prepared for life as able-bodied pupils. (If a school fails in this respect, it is 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 and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various formats within a reasonable time frame.
5. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this plan and therefore sometimes may roll into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
6. As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on equality and Diversity. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will contain an item on having regard to matters relating to access'.
7. The School Prospectus will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.
8. The School's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
9. The plan will be monitored by the Governors' Children and Learning Committee.
10. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.
11. We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.