

Thrussington C. of E. Primary School.

Accessibility Policy.

2016 – 2019

Accessibility Policy and Accessibility Plan

Thrussington C. of E. Primary School aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and all other members of the school community, favourably and, wherever possible, take reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant external agencies in order to remove or to mitigate against any potential barriers to learning which puts them at a disadvantage, but which allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled pupils. As part of the school's endeavour to improve accessibility, continued communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders, through data collection, questionnaires and parental discussions are reviewed.

The purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to show how Thrussington School intends over time to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils in accordance with the Equality Act, 2010 (referred to as The Act.) The Act replaces all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law means that "schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils on grounds of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation." The Accessibility Plan is listed as a statutory document of the Department of Education's advice on statutory policies for schools.

The Plan must be reviewed every three years and have the approval of the Governing Body (Board). The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body (Board), an individual or to the Headteacher.

Definition of Disability

A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term, adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

What will the Accessibility Plan do?

1. The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality and Diversity Policy and the SEND Policy, both of which are available on the school's web-site.
2. Thrussington School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their educational, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. The school is committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act, 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.
3. The Thrussington School's Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils. Staff and visitors to the school within a given time frame and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs wherever possible. The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to
 - Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils. This encompasses teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, recreational and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable time frame.
 - Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary – this to cover improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable time frame.
 - Improve 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 preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.
4. Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness of equality issues for staff and governors to comply with the Equality Act, 2010.
5. This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Behaviour Policy
 - Equality and Diversity Policy
 - Health and Safety Policy
 - Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
 - School Improvement Plan
6. The accessibility Plan will be published on the school's web-site.
 7. The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through Governing Body committees and reported to the full Governing Body.
 8. The school will work in partnership with the local authority, where applicable, in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.

To be reviewed in the Autumn Term, 2017, in line with changes to the building.