

## Introduction

Under the Equality Act 2010 schools should have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that “schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation”. According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The Accessibility Plan is listed as a statutory document of the Department for Education’s guidance on statutory policies for schools. The Plan must be reviewed every three years and approved by the Governing Body. The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, an individual or the Head.

Thomas Gray Primary 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 education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. They are 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.

Thomas Gray Primary School has adopted this accessibility plan in line with the school’s special educational needs policy with the aim to ensure that their school is socially and academically inclusive, that all pupils have access to a full curriculum, and that all pupils are appropriately challenged. This plan is created in response to the recommendations made in our school’s last access audit which took place in February 2019 and should be read in conjunction with the Access Audit. The Schools special educational needs policy outlines the provision that the school has in place to support pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and the school’s publication of equality information and objectives explains how we ensure equal opportunities for all our students. Increased access to the curriculum, physical access to the school, and access to information are particular to students with SEND, and this accessibility plan provides an outline of how the school will manage this part of the SEND provision.

Under the remit of the Equality Act 2010, provision should be made for all pupils with disabilities and ensure that they are not discriminated against. The need for specialist support and educational provision should be clearly identified and used effectively, to the full benefit of the pupil’s development. Under SEND all schools have a duty to audit access to buildings and facilities and develop an Accessibility strategy and plan covering a 3-year period. Through implementation of the Accessibility Plan schools should be aiming to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum

## THOMAS Gray Primary School ACCESSIBILITY PLAN – 2022 - 2025

- Improve the physical environment of the school increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of the education and associated services provided by the school
- Improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided to pupils who are not disabled.

Pupils with SEND will be given access to the curriculum supported by the school's specialist SEND provision and in line with the wishes of their parents and the needs of the individual.

The school curriculum is regularly reviewed by the Head Teacher to ensure that it is accessible to pupils of all levels and abilities and supports the learning and progress of all pupils as individuals. This includes learning outside the classroom.

It is the aim of the School to ensure that all resources and SEND provisions are being used effectively and efficiently within the school setting in order to support the taught curriculum and enable pupils to reach their full potential. The school does this by:

- keeping staff fully informed of the special educational needs of any pupils in their charge including sharing progress reports, medical reports and teacher feedback
- providing regular training and learning opportunities for staff in all departments on the subject of SEND and SEND teaching; school staff should be up to date with teaching methods that will aid the progress of all pupils including those with SEND
- making use of all class facilities and space
- using in-class provisions and support effectively to ensure that the curriculum is differentiated where necessary
- making sure that individual or group tuition is available where it is felt that pupils would benefit from this provision
- any decision to provide group teaching outside the classroom will involve the SENCO in providing a rationale and focus on flexible teaching. Parents will be made aware of any circumstances in which changes have been made
- setting appropriate individual targets that motivate pupils to do their best, and celebrating achievements at all levels
- listening to pupils' views and taking them into account in all aspects of school life.

### **2. Sensory and physical needs**

The school has some of the following adaptations in place to meet sensory and physical needs and those not yet present are being planned for the future:

- appropriate seating, acoustic conditioning and lighting
- adaptations to the physical environment of the school
- adaptations to school policies and procedures

- access to alternative or augmented forms of communication
- provision of tactile and kinaesthetic materials
- access to low vision aids
- access to specialist aids, equipment or furniture
- regular and frequent access to specialist support

### **3. Reasonable adjustments**

The School will also make reasonable adjustments for individual students who need extra provision than that which is already in place to make sure that all students are involved in every aspect of school life, and that all barriers to learning are removed. These may fall under the following headings:

#### **The building and grounds:**

- audio-visual fire alarms
- assistance with guiding

#### **Teaching and learning:**

- a piece of equipment
- extra staff assistance
- an electronic or manual note-taking service
- readers for pupils with visual impairments

#### **Methods of communication:**

- a piece of equipment
- the provision of a sign language interpreter, lip-speaker or deaf-blind communicator
- induction loop or infrared broadcast system

THOMAS Gray Primary School ACCESSIBILITY PLAN – 2022 - 2025

- videophones
- readers for pupils with visual impairments.
- This accessibility plan will be evaluated every 3 years to monitor its effectiveness and ensure that it covers all areas of accessibility that are needed in the school

**Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum**

Time Scale	Target	Activities	Outcome	By when	By whom	Success criteria
Short Term	To provide pre and post learning opportunities for children	Provide pre and post learning opportunities for children during 'Getting Ready to Grow Time'	Children will access curriculum content during lesson time	Ongoing	Classroom staff	Children will access curriculum content during lesson time and curriculum knowledge will increase
Medium term	To raise awareness of the inclusive practices, disability and how to remove barriers to learning, assessment and participation.	Staff training on Inclusion and Differentiation, with follow up workshop sessions throughout the year	Staff more familiar with differing techniques to enable all pupils, particularly those with disabilities, to access the curriculum and achieve. E.g. supporting pupils with BESD, ASD, social and	Ongoing	Training to be organised by SENCOs  All staff to take part in training	Increased access to curriculum for all

THOMAS Gray Primary School ACCESSIBILITY PLAN – 2022 - 2025

			communication difficulties etc.			
Long term	To improve access to curriculum content	To ensure that all future curriculum developments take account of accessibility issues.  Class meetings to discuss children with disabilities, focusing on their learning, access to lessons and next steps.	Improvement in levels of attainment	Ongoing	All classroom staff	Increase in access to the curriculum, raised standards of attainment

Signed by

Head Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SENCo \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Governor \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

