

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY AND PLAN

LEIGHTERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Review date: Summer 2026

Date	Signed (Chair of Governors)	Signed (Headteacher)

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY AND PLAN

Leighterton Primary School strives to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school are such that, whatever the abilities and needs of members of the school community, everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect. Pupils should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity.

Under the Equality Act 2010, a person is classified as disabled if they have ‘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.’

Physical or mental impairments can include sensory impairments (such as those affecting sight and hearing) and learning difficulties. The definition also covers certain medical conditions when they have a long-term and substantial effect on pupils’ everyday lives.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to recognise our duty under the Equality Act 2010 to not discriminate against, harass or victimise a pupil or potential pupil:

- ♣ in relation to admissions
- ♣ in the way that it provides education for pupils
- ♣ in the way that it provides pupils access to any benefit, facility or service, or
- ♣ by excluding a pupil or subjecting them to any other detriment.

The Governing Body recognises its statutory duty to produce an Accessibility Plan, which is reviewed every three years.

Policy Development

Who?	Method of consultation
Headteacher and Governors	LGB
Teachers	Professional Development Meeting
Non-teaching staff	Via Support Staff Meeting

Aims

Leighterton Primary School strives to include all pupils, including those with disabilities, in the full life of the school.

We have three aims for our Accessibility Plan:

1. To increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum.
2. To improve the physical environment to enable disabled pupils, as well as other stakeholders, to take better advantage of education, benefits and facilities provided, as far as is practical.
3. To improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils and other stakeholders.

Our strategies to meet these aims include:

- ♣ having high expectations of all pupils
- ♣ finding ways in which all pupils can take part in the full curriculum including sport, music and drama
- ♣ planning out-of-school activities including all school trips and excursions so that pupils with disabilities can participate
- ♣ setting admissions policy and criteria which does not discriminate against pupils with disabilities or treat them unfairly
- ♣ devising teaching strategies which will remove barriers to learning and participation for pupils with disabilities
- ♣ planning the physical environment of the school to cater for the needs of pupils with disabilities
- ♣ treating all in the school with respect and regard for individual differences by developing a whole school ethos on accepting difference
- ♣ ensuring information is accessible to all members of the school community
- ♣ ensuring all children have access to positive images of disabled adults and children
- ♣ involving parents in all parts of their child's school life and decisions that have been made, and respecting the parents' and child's right to confidentiality

We aim to reduce and, where possible, eliminate barriers to accessing the curriculum and to ensure full participation in the Leighterton Primary School Community for pupils, parents, staff and other stakeholders with a disability. Leighterton Primary School recognises that it had a duty to supply auxiliary aids and services when it would be reasonable to do so and if such an aid would alleviate any substantial disadvantage that the pupil faces in comparison to non-disabled pupils. Such aids could be hearing loops, adaptive keyboards and special software. The key test is reasonableness as far as what the school can be expected to provide.

Our school building is over 100 years old, which provides some challenges to accessibility. However, there is a disabled toilet and some wide doors to enable wheelchair access. Improvements to the interior of the school building in 2017 included a floor on one level in the main building. All building work in 2017 complied with building regulations.

We recognise that The Equality Duty 2010 explicitly recognises that disabled pupils' needs may be different from those of non-disabled pupils and that this might mean making reasonable adjustments of treating disabled pupils better than non-disabled pupils in order to meet their needs.

Compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act is consistent with Leighterton Primary School's aims.

Other related school policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Athelstan Trust SENDE and Learning Difficulties Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy and Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy. Accessibility Plan Targets 2023-2025

Leighterton Primary School takes a strategic view in planning for disabled pupils and will fully consider potential, together with any reasonable adjustments.

1. **Education and Related Activities:** Leighterton Primary School will seek and follow the advice of the Local Authority services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEND advisers, and of appropriate health professionals when planning for individual needs.
2. **Physical Environment:** Leighterton Primary School will take account of the needs of pupils, parents, staff, governors and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishment of the site and premises. If required, teaching areas, acoustics, colour schemes and the accessibility of facilities and fittings would be assessed.
3. **Provision of Information:** Leighterton Primary School will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the Local Authority, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Review This policy was adopted by Leighterton Primary School Governing Board, Summer 2023 and is scheduled for review by the LGB every three years. Next review: Summer 2026.