

Rumworth School Accessibility Plan 2017 – 2020



Section 1: Vision statement

It is a requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for schools to have an accessibility plan. Each child who joins our school community will be welcomed and valued regardless of sex, race, belief, physical disability or learning difficulty. This accessibility plan focuses on a wide range of disability associated with students with moderate learning difficulties, severe learning difficulties and profound and multiple learning difficulties.

At Rumworth School, student achievement is celebrated in a student-centred teaching and learning environment. The excellent achievement that we strive for at school for all students at an appropriate rate and through a suitable route enables our students to be as independent as possible so that they can make the most of opportunities when they leave Rumworth School and progress on to adult destinations for independence and employability.

The purpose of the accessibility plan is to ensure that all students have access to education in the three areas required by the planning duties in the Equality Act 2010:-

1. Increasing the extent to which students with disabilities can participate in the school curriculum;
2. Improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which students with disabilities can take advantage of education and associated services;
3. Improving information delivery to students with disabilities.

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

- ✓ Monitor recruitment procedures to ensure that persons with disabilities are provided with equal opportunities
- ✓ Ensure that employees with disabilities are supported with special provision as appropriate to ensure that they can carry out their work effectively without barriers
- ✓ Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

Definition of disability under the Equality Act 2010

You are disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

Development and Review

- ✓ The accessibility plan is guided by the principles and procedures in the Rumworth School policies that support Equality
- ✓ The plan will be on the school website and then reviewed annually by the Rumworth School Senior Leadership Team and governors to ensure it is effective.

Section 2: Aims and objectives

Our aims are to:

- ✓ Increase access to the curriculum for students with a disability
- ✓ Improve and maintain access to the physical environment
- ✓ Improve the accessibility of written information for students within the building

The table below sets out how Rumworth School will strive towards achieving these aims.

Aim	Current good practice (Include established practice and practice under development)	Objectives (State short, medium and long-term objectives)	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Increase access to the curriculum for students with a disability	Our whole-school curriculum offer has been refined to cater for our widening range of needs, and is subject to ongoing review to ensure it meets the needs of all students	A pre-formal, semi-formal and formal curriculum model is being implemented from September 2017 to ensure that students continue to make excellent progress towards challenging expectations and targets	Ensure the effectiveness of the curriculum models. Update the curriculum statement, policies and procedures to ensure curriculum is accessible to all learners	SLT Senior Director Working with SLT Strand Leads and Subject Leads	July 2018 Then refine & review again in July 2019 and July 2020
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	New building due to open in September 2018 was specifically designed to meet the needs of all learners	There are no access issues in the new building, and there were none in the original building prior to the damage. There are also plans to then improve the outside play areas during 2018-19 to improve provision once the building is handed over	Complete the planned improvements, review student access to ensure a positive impact on learning	Headteacher Working with SENCO and SLT Strand Leads, and therapy team staff	October 2018 Then refine & review again in July 2019 and July 2020
Improve the accessibility of written information for students within the building	Rumworth teaching spaces should all follow our "basic recipe" for those things that promote accessibility and support independence e.g. labels & signs with words & pictures, suitability of reading books, student diaries, differentiated marking & feedback	Signage was all in word & picture format prior to the damage. We need to ensure all new signage is in word & picture format, plus we will have Braille plates made for outside classrooms if student needs require this. CPD for staff to support wider communication, marking & feedback	Classroom audits in November and May annually Signage in place for November 2018 then ongoing Ongoing CPD via the cycle	SLT Senior Director Working with SLT Strand Leads, Lead Teacher for ITT/CPD, teachers and Site Manager	Annually in November and May for audits Ongoing CPD via the annual cycle

Section 3: Access Audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of floors	Stairs are kept clean, tidy and free from obstruction at all times	Maintain and ensure access	Site Manager, with all staff and cleaning team	Ongoing
Corridor access, including "middle spaces" on all new landings which replace corridors	Corridors and middle space landings are wide enough for wheelchairs and standing / walking frames	Ensure student equipment does not block a corridor	Headteacher	Ongoing
Lift	Service level agreement in place for maintenance	Ensure lift is serviced every 6 months via the service level agreement	Site Manager	Ongoing
Parking bays	Disabled parking bays marked	None required	Site Manager	Ongoing
Entrances	Automatic front doors, enclosed lobby	None required	Headteacher	Ongoing
Hoists	Mobile hoist, the hoists in Hydrotherapy suite and the hoists in the accessible changing suites	Ensure hoists are serviced every 6 months via the service level agreement	Site Manager, with TA3 for Moving & Handling	Ongoing
Toilets	All hygiene areas have hoists, toilets have disabled access and alarms	Ensure service every 6 months via the service level agreement	Site Manager	Ongoing
Reception area	Accessible to wheelchair users	None required	Headteacher	Ongoing
Internal signage	Large signs in place (once we have occupied the building)	None required	Headteacher	Ongoing
Emergency escape routes	Fire evacuation plan in place	Ensure weekly testing of system and maintenance	Site Manager	Ongoing