

**Red Hall Primary School**

**Accessibility Policy**

|  |
| --- |
| **Document History** |
| **Updated:** | **January 2017****September 2018** |
| **By:** | **HT** |
| **Review Date** | **May 2019** |
| **Reviewed with Local Authority** | **May 2018** |
| **Approved by Governing Body** | **14th March, 2017****Awaiting approval** |

**Introduction**

Schools need to carry out accessibility planning for pupils with a disability. These are the same duties as previously existed under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and which have been replicated in the Equality Act 2010:

* To promote equality of opportunity for disabled people: pupils, staff, parents, carers and other people who use the school or may wish to; and

Our staff recognise their duty under the Equality Act:

* Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions and provision of education and associated services
* Not to treat disable pupils less favourably
* To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disable pupils at a substantial disadvantage
* To publish an Accessibility Plan.

According to the Act a “disabled person is defined as someone who has a physical or mental impairment which has an effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-today activities”. The effect must be substantial, long term and adverse. The Equality Act definition of disability covers physical disabilities, sensory and other mental impairments and learning disabilities.

This Accessibility Plan is a statutory duty. It sets out how the local governing body plans to proactively improve the equality of opportunity for those within its school community who have a disability. The duty is to anticipate and plan for their future needs.

**School aims and values**

At Red Hall Primary School we are committed to establishing equality for all pupils, their parents, staff and other users of the school. This is reflected in our school aims, which state that Red Hall Primary School aims:

* to maximise the potential of all our children by providing them with an exciting and creative curriculum, taught by inspirational staff, in an environment where they feel safe, nurtured and valued.
* to support our families in many different ways and believe partnership is at our core. Creating strong links with parents and carers gives our children the best possible start to their educational success.

Our school

* recognises and values the young person’s knowledge/parent’s knowledge of their child’s disability
* recognises the effect their disability has on his/her ability to carry out activities,
* respects the parents’ and child’s right to confidentiality

Red Hall Primary School is committed to equality of opportunities in all aspects of our provision and further information of how we endeavour to meet our responsibilities can be found in the following school policy documents;

* Equality and Diversity Policy
* SEN Policy
* SEND Local Offer
* Health and Safety Policy
* Safeguarding Policy
* Anti Bullying Policies including ‘Tackling the Use of Homophobic Language’.
* Transgender Policy
* Staff related policies e.g. Safer Recruitment, Code of Conduct.

**Key Aims of the Plan**

To increase and eventually ensure for pupils with a disability that they have:

* Total access to our setting’s environment, curriculum information and
* Full participation in the school community.

**Management, Implementation and Publication**

It will be the responsibility of the whole school community to implement this plan in a manner which promotes the inclusive ethos of our school.

It is a requirement that the school’s Accessibility Plan is resourced, implemented and reviewed and revised as necessary. An action plan in the form of the school’s **ACCESSIBILITY PLAN** shows the priorities identified for action along with how they are to be addressed. A success criteria has been set so progress and outcomes can be measured. The plan is to be reviewed and updated at least every three years.

The Accessibility plan will be available to all children, staff and parents to contribute to the review process at any time.

The Accessibility plan will be published on the School’s website and can be available as a paper copy from the main office.

This Accessibility Plan and SEN information Report will be linked to the Darlington Local Offer and be available as part of the school Local Offer.