



WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

ACCESSIBILTY PLAN

NOVEMBER 2016 – NOVEMBER 2019

Date effective from:	November 2016
Prepared by:	Mr P Dugdale and Mrs SG Hudson
Approved by:	To be presented to GB Spring 2017
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Please note that where policy is LCC model policy, then the version details will be provided by LCC in the document.

Version numbers ending in a letter relate to documents under review and awaiting approval. Once a document has been approved then the version number will increase e.g. version 1a = approved version 1 being reviewed. Once version 1a has been approved it will then move to version 2.

Version Number	Date of change	Reviewed by	Brief reason for changes
1.0	Nov 2016	Mr P Dugdale	Document created by Mr P Dugdale and Mrs SG Hudson (SEN Governor)

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Statement of intent

Whitworth Community High School is committed to taking all steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage and therefore works closely with pupils with disabilities, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove any potential barriers to their learning experience.

The school is active in promoting an inclusive positive environment by ensuring that every pupil is given equal opportunity to develop socially, to learn, and to enjoy school life. The school continually looks for ways to improve accessibility within the school through data collection, parents/carers questionnaires and discussions.

This policy will be implemented at all times and adhered to by all staff members, pupils, parents/carers and visitors.

1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to statutory legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Special Educational Needs Regulations 2014
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011
- Disability Discrimination (England) Regulations 2005

1.2. This policy has due regard to national guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- 'The Equality Act 2010 and schools', DFE (2014)

1.3. This policy will be used in conjunction with other school policies and procedures e.g.:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Medical Needs Policy
- Health and Safety Policies
- SEF/School Improvement Plan

*This is not an exhaustive list

2. Definition

2.1. person is defined as having a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has an adverse, substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

- 2.2. The effect of the Equality Act 2010 means that schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief.

3. Roles and responsibilities

- 3.1. Staff members will act in accordance with the school's Accessibility Policy and Accessibility Plan at all times.
- 3.2. The Headteacher will create an Accessibility Plan with the intention of improving the school's accessibility and will monitor the effectiveness of the Accessibility Plan.
- 3.3. All staff members are responsible for ensuring that their actions do not discriminate against any pupil, parent/carer or colleague.
- 3.4. The Headteacher/SENCO will ensure that staff members are aware of individual pupils' disabilities or medical conditions where necessary.
- 3.5. During a new pupil's induction at Whitworth Community High School the SENCO will establish whether the pupil has any disabilities or medical conditions which the school should be aware of.
- 3.6. The SENCO is responsible for consulting with relevant and reputable experts if challenging situations regarding pupils with disabilities are experienced.
- 3.7. The Headteacher, governing body and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will work closely with the LA and external agencies to effectively create and implement the school's Accessibility Plan.
- 3.8. The (SENCO) will work closely with the Headteacher to ensure that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are appropriately supported.
- 3.9. All staff members and governors will be made aware of equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.
- 3.10. Designated staff members will be trained to effectively support pupils with medical conditions, such as understanding how to administer insulin.

4. Accessibility Plan

- 4.1. The Accessibility Plan will be structured to complement and support the school's other policies (see 1.3).
- 4.2. The Accessibility Plan may be presented as a freestanding document.
- 4.3. Whitworth's Accessibility Plan demonstrates how access will be improved

for pupils with disabilities, staff, parents/carers and visitors to the school within a given timeframe.

4.4. The plan has the following key aims:

- To increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum
- To improve and maintain the school's physical environment to enable pupils with disabilities to take advantage of the facilities and education on offer

4.5. The intention is to provide a projected plan for a 3 year period

4.6. If it is not feasible to undertake all of the plans/works during the lifespan of the Accessibility Plan, some items will roll forward into subsequent plans.

4.7. The Accessibility Plan will be used to measure the necessity of making reasonable adjustments in order to accommodate the needs of people with disabilities where practicable.

4.8. The Accessibility Plan will be used to advise other school planning documents and will be reported upon annually in respect of progress and outcomes.

4.9. The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

4.10. The LA will provide auxiliary aids and services where necessary in order to help the school provide adequate support to pupils with disabilities.

5. Equal opportunities

5.1. Whitworth Community High School strives to ensure that all existing and potential pupils are given the same opportunities.

5.2. Whitworth Community High School is committed to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness.

5.3. Staff members will be aware of any pupils who are at a substantial disadvantage and will take the appropriate steps to ensure the pupil is effectively supported.

5.4. The Accessibility Plan will detail any barriers which are hindering the opportunities for pupils with SEND. The aim of the plan is to take appropriate measures in order to overcome these barriers, allowing all pupils equal opportunities.

5.5. Wherever possible, teaching staff will adapt their lesson plans and the curriculum in order to allow all pupils to reach their full potential and receive the support they need.

5.6. Whitworth Community High School will ensure that extracurricular activities are accessible to all pupils. The school will make all reasonable adjustments to allow pupils with SEND to participate in all school activities.

6. Admissions

- 6.1. Whitworth Community High School will act in accordance with the Admissions Policy.
- 6.2. The school will apply the same entry criteria to all pupils and potential pupils.
- 6.3. In the event of entry examinations, the school will support those with SEND by making any reasonable adjustments necessary, e.g. publishing exam papers in a larger font.
- 6.4. The school will strive to not put any pupil at a substantial disadvantage by making reasonable adjustments prior to the pupil starting at the school.
- 6.5. All pupils, including those with SEND, will have appropriate access to all of the opportunities available to any member of the school community.
- 6.6. Information will be obtained on future pupils in order to facilitate advanced planning.
- 6.7. Prospective parents/carers of pupil with EHCPs, and pupils with SEND, are invited to a transition meeting prior to the pupil starting the school in order to discuss the pupil's specific needs.

7. Curriculum

- 7.1. Whitworth Community High School is committed to providing a healthy environment that enables full curriculum access, which values and includes all pupils regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual and emotional needs.
- 7.2. The school aims to provide a differentiated curriculum to enable all pupils to feel secure and make progress.
- 7.3. The Curriculum Leader for each subject and the SENCO will work together with advice sought from outside agencies where appropriate, to allow all pupils to reach their full potential.
- 7.4. Physical education lessons will be adapted, wherever possible, to allow pupils with disabilities to participate in lessons.
- 7.5. Where areas of the curriculum present particular challenges for a pupil, these are dealt with on an individual basis.
- 7.6. The class teacher, in discussion with the pupil and their parents/carers, will ensure that all adjustments possible, in line with common sense and practical application will be made for any particular disability or impairment.
- 7.7. The class teacher, in discussion with the pupil and their parents/carers,

will ensure that all adjustments possible, in line with common sense and practical application will be made for any particular disability or impairment.

- 7.8. There are established procedures for the identification and support of pupils with SEND in place at the school.
- 7.9. Detailed information on pupils with SEND are given to relevant staff in order to aid teaching.
- 7.10. Specialist resources are available for pupils with visual impairments.
- 7.11. Teaching Assistants are deployed to implement programmes.

8. Physical environment

- 8.1. Whitworth Community High School is committed to ensuring that all pupils, staff members, parents/carers and visitors have equal access to areas and facilities within the school premises.
- 8.2. The school has toilet facilities suitable for people with disabilities.

9. Monitoring and review

- 9.1. This policy will be reviewed when new legislation/guidance concerning equality and disability is published.
- 9.2. The Headteacher will review the policy in collaboration with the SENCO's support.

Appendix A – Accessibility Plan

Whitworth Community High School is committed to removing barriers to pupil access both physical and learning.

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

The Governors recognise the duties placed upon them:

- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability
- To make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage
- To plan to make reasonable adjustments to the school buildings recognising its limitations so that there is increased access for disabled persons
- To increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum
- To improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services
- To improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled

Previous adaptations made to the school:

- Ramp to main doors of school
- Ramp access to Sports Hall
- Unisex disabled toilet near to Reception
- Lift access to main teaching block
- Disabled toilet, accessed with a key, in P.E. Area
- Electronic whiteboards in teaching rooms – it is recognised that children with learning difficulties and sight problems find it easier to learn when an electronic whiteboard is used
- Training of staff i.e. first aid, diabetes, epilepsy etc.
- Provision of a disabled parking bay

Curriculum

Target	Action	Outcome	Timescale	Success criteria	Monitoring/ Review
Develop a personalised curriculum for vulnerable students (SEN, FSM, LAC)	Review current curriculum pathways and provision	Curriculum matches pupil needs	Sept. 2019	Students develop independence and make good progress. Students receive full curriculum entitlement	Ongoing
Ensure staff trained in dealing with health related conditions (diabetes, medical conditions), behaviour & cognitive issues	Address training issues	Situations dealt with effectively. More highly trained staff	Sept. 2019	Pupils feel safe and supported	Ongoing
Ensure SOW and resources match needs	Audit	Needs of SEN pupils addressed	Sept. 2017	Improved attainment & progress of SEN pupils	Ongoing

Physical environment

Target	Action	Outcome	Timescale	Success criteria	Monitoring
Entrance to main block from quad not entirely flat and needs a ramp / levelling to allow access	Cost investigations and Improvement of Entrance in quad area	Improved access	Sept. 2019	Increased accessibility	Ongoing
Ramp up to Science Block Is uneven and needs levelling	Cost and levelling of uneven flags	Improved access	Sept. 2017	Increased accessibility	
Improve disabled access to Technology Block as there is none at present	Cost and feasibility study	Improved access Buildings do not exclude students	Sept. 2019		
Improve emergency evacuation procedure from the 1 st and 2 nd floor	Cost and purchase of an Evac chair Assessment by Fire Brigade for safe area in emergency	Improve access and evacuation in an emergency	Sept. 2017		
Improvement of disabled toilets to include changing table for students with continence issues	Cost and flexibility study	Improved access	Sept.2019		
Improve emergency exit in Technology Area to ensure safe exit in case of emergency	Cost and feasibility study Tidy and improve storage in Technology	Improve emergency exits	Sept . 2019		
Improve double doors throughout school	Cost and feasibility study of self-opening double doors	Improve access	Sept. 2019		
The corridor flooring and lighting is designed to support those who are visually impaired	Cost and feasibility study	Improve environment	Sept. 2019		

Provision of chrome books to be used by those with relevant disabilities	Cost and feasibility study	Improved access	Sept. 2019		
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Information

Target	Action	Outcome	Timescale	Success criteria	Monitoring
Have written material / communication available to parents in alternative format	Questionnaire to stakeholders Seek advice / guidance	Range of information presentation identified and revised	Sept. 2019	Increased involvement in school Delivery of information improved	
Improved signage	Audit	New and more signage that Accessible for more SEND	Sept. 2019	Signage is informative and accessible	