

# Kirkby Malzeard C of E Primary School Accessibility Policy/Plan **amended Jan 2019**

## **Access Policy Statement:**

Kirkby Malzeard C of E Primary School recognises that many of its pupils, visitors and staff, whether disabled or otherwise, have individual needs when seeking to make use of the school and facilities. However, Kirkby Malzeard School also recognises the fact that for some users, the nature of their disabilities may mean that they experience specific difficulties related to accessing education at the school, and the physical environment. As part of its ongoing commitment to Equal Opportunities and the delivery of an inclusive educational service, Kirby Malzeard C of E Primary School will endeavour to ensure that disabled people receive the same standards of service as everyone else.

The school aims to:

- Communicate to all staff that our policy of educational services ensures the inclusion of disabled people.
- Consult with disabled pupils, parents, staff and disability organisations.
- Plan to make access improvements to enable disabled people to use its services and communicate their availability to both pupils and staff.
- Regularly review whether its provision is accessible to all, and take appropriate action.
- Monitor the implementation and effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis.
- Operate an accessible procedure whereby disabled people can make improvement suggestions and request assistance.

## **Purpose of the Plan**

The purpose of this plan is to show how Kirkby Malzeard C of E Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

## **Definition of Disability**

According to the Equality Act 2010, a person has a disability if:

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

## **Legal Background**

Under the Equality Act 2010 all schools must have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation including the DDA. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that 'Schools cannot lawfully discriminate against pupil's because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation.'

This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum (this includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits;
- improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services (this includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.

- improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled (this will include planning to make written information that is normally provided by schools to its pupils available to disabled pupils. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about school events. The information should take account of the pupils' disabilities and the preferred format of pupils and parents and be made available within a reasonable timeframe.)

Kirkby Malzeard C of E Primary School aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and other members of the school community favourably, and, wherever possible, takes reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled pupils. As part of the school's continued communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders we continually look at ways to improve accessibility through data collection, questionnaires and parental discussions.

### **Contextual Information**

The school comprises several buildings:

- The main single storey building houses the school hall and OAK class (our EYFS/KS1 unit) which has a purpose built dedicated outdoor learning area. This building has disabled access/egress and toilets (hygiene room). Wheelchair access is available, with provision adapted as required. Wheelchair access to the main school building can be gained via the front and rear of the school. Classroom doorways are all wheelchair accessible.
- An old school building (single storey) which is being adapted during July/August 2017 for temporary use during the academic year 2017/18\*
- There are two portable classroom units, one of which has wheelchair access via a ramp and a disabled toilet. Replacement of these units is planned for July/August 2018 to meet the needs of current pupils in school.\* Replacement completed October 2018 - classroom in line with DDA requirements.
- Arrangements are made as necessary to accommodate staff and pupils and provide an equitable work/learning environment.

\*The school is currently working with the Local Authority to make adjustments to meet the needs of our current pupils with SEND. The Accessibility Plan 2017-19 reflects these changes.

### **The Current Range of Disabilities within school**

The school has children with a variety of special educational and medical needs which includes wheelchair users and children with restricted mobility. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts the LA professionals for assessments, support and guidance for the school and parents.

We have a number of children who have asthma, food allergies and diabetes; all staff are aware of these children. Inhalers, epi-pens & appropriate medications are kept in school and taken on all visits off site. Staff are trained in the use of 'epi-pens' and have also received training from the diabetic nursing team.

We have competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates. All medication is kept in a central safe and secure place which has easy access for First Aiders and staff members. Administration

of Medicines consent forms are filled in by parents outlining the illness and amount and time of medication. All medication that is given is recorded.

**Availability of Plan:**

The school makes the Accessibility Plan available in the following ways:

- A copy is posted on the school's website.
- Paper copies are available from the school office.

**Review and Evaluation:**

Due to the nature of the needs of our current pupils our Accessibility Plan is under constant review and is reported on regularly at governing body meetings. The attached plan is valid for two years - 2017-19.

Approved by: FGB

Date: 2017

Review Date: 2019

