

**ST WOOLOS PRIMARY SCHOOL**



# **ACCESSIBIITY PLAN**

**January 2021**

<b>Date Amended</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
October 2016	H Vaughan
January 2020	H Vaughan
January 2021	H Vaughan

## ST WOOLOS PRIMARY SCHOOL

### ACCESSIBILITY PLAN 2020-24

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, school Governing Bodies have three key duties towards disabled pupils, under Part 4 of the DDA:

1. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
2. to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
3. to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

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

- a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
- b) improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
- c) improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

The plan has been revised in consultation with the Governing Body. It should be read in conjunction with the school's Additional Learning Needs and Equalities Policies (The ALN Policy is currently under review as a result of the new ALN Bill due to be presented to the Welsh Government in Spring 2021.)

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

#### **The School's Context**

St Woolos Primary School is a large three storey red-brick building first built in 1904.

The School's aim is to promote equity of access to the curriculum for all pupils and ensure that they are able to achieve to the best of their ability.

We are working within a national framework for educational inclusion provided by:

- Inclusive School (DfES 0774/2001)
- SEN & Disability Act 2001
- The SEN Revised Code of Practice 2002
- The Disability Discrimination Act (amended for school 2001)
- Code of Practice for Schools (Disability Rights Commission)
- The Equalities Act (2010)

The New ALN Code Of Practice will contain further details on this. (Due to be implemented in September 2021.)

## Timescale

This Accessibility Plan runs from January 2020 until January 2024.

## Priorities

The priorities for the Accessibility Plan for our school follow:

<p><b>1. The main priorities in the school's plan</b></p> <p><b>A: Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide yellow and blue exercise books so that pupils with SpLDs can access their written word more easily.</li> <li>• Provide large print for Visually Impaired pupils,</li> <li>• Use a Soundfield or Radio Microphone for Hearing Impaired pupils</li> <li>• Ensure that pupils with visual or hearing impairments are seated appropriately within the classroom or hall</li> </ul> <p><b>B: Improving the physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ground floor Nursery area is accessible by wheelchair and parent meetings can be held on this floor if necessary.</li> <li>• Newport City Council has surveyed the building for Disability Access but it is limited in its use because the façade is Grade ii listed. The original proposal to install a lift from the top to bottom of the school would have not only proven very costly but would also have impacted adversely on the number of possible full classrooms to be used.</li> <li>• A disabled toilet will be provided when work is completed on the boxing club annexe in 2021.</li> <li>• The library is used for withdrawal purposes at break or lunchtimes for pupils with particular ailments or physical limitations, either temporary such as fractures, or permanent disabilities eg congenital heart conditions.</li> <li>• The Quiet Room and the Sanctuary provide private withdrawal spaces for provision such as Speech Therapy.</li> <li>• Additionally, the Library is used for pupils to have time out when they have chosen to come in from the yard because they find the social challenge of large numbers of pupils distressing.</li> <li>• A hearing induction system will be installed in the new annexe.</li> </ul>
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**C: Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information that is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled:**

- If pupils have a disability the school will co-ordinate with the health care specialist to ensure that the appropriate support is in place.
- If large print is necessary or if different coloured paper is to be used, then the needs of the child will be accommodated.
- The same principles will be adhered to for parents and other adults and where it is necessary to support a parent, for example, with an interpreter, every opportunity will be taken to access this from a specialist agency.

**D: Improving access to the premises of parents and visitors who may be disabled:**

- The school building is challenging to all adults with disabilities but wherever possible, adults and children will be accommodated and will be able to use the side entrance with the fewest steps.
- An access ramp will be installed at the rear of the school when the boxing club work is completed in 2020. It will provide access to the boxing club annexe and a disabled toilet. In addition, a disabled parking space will be provided on North Street. (Spring 2021)

**E: Improving access to literature or materials for parents and carers who may have a disability**

- Wherever possible, staff will read school literature to parents or provide large print format of letters on request.
- The school uses the School text messaging service which means that a parent with a visual impairment can enlarge the print on their phone. Where accessible, parents may also use this facility to read electronic text aloud.
- The school plans to introduce Visitor ID cards with raised Braille print on. (2021)
- Where there is no other means of delivering items to a parent who is disabled, staff will make home visits.

**2: Making it happen**

This plan is the joint responsibility of the school, the Governing Body and the LA.

- It will be monitored annually in September by the Health and Safety Committee of the Governing Body.

**3: Getting hold of the school's plan**

- The plan is available from the school on request to the school office.
- It is also available on the school's website.
- Alternatively, a copy may be sent by email if there is a request. This will ensure that all parents and carers have equality to access of information if they have a disability themselves.