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Walsh Church of England Junior School

Accessibility plan

Status and Review Cycle: Statutory Annual

Next Review Date: October 2025

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# Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

* Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
* Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
* Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

Our school aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

Our school’s complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including children, parents, staff and governors.

# 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/schedule/10) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/equality-act-2010-advice-for-schools).

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a ‘substantial’ and ‘long-term’ adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25), ‘long-term’ is defined as ‘a year or more’ and ‘substantial’ is defined as ‘more than minor or trivial’. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make ‘reasonable adjustments’ for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

# 3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

| **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** | **Success criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability | Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.  We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.  Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities.  Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.  Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.  The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.  Children identified by Surrey County Council as needing to be placed in our Resourced Provision are taught for part of the week in a separate class. | Complete audit of interests for all children, taking particular note of children with disabilities.  Continue to monitor the curriculum being offered to all children and ensure this encompasses variation where needed for different needs.  Ensure deaf friendly curriculum for year group with HI child | Continue to monitor the curriculum being offered to all children and ensure this encompasses variation where needed for different needs.  Incorporate children’s interests into the curriculum where possible.  Ensure deaf friendly curriculum for year group with HI child.  Ensure Classroom environment is suitable for HI child | PB/MK | July 2021 |  |
| Improve and maintain access to the physical environment | The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required.  This includes:   * Ramps * Wide corridors and access doors out of the building * Disabled parking bay * Disabled toilets and changing facilities * Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height | Ensure environment around the school is suitable for any pupils with disabilities  Investigate a loop system for use in the main hall and reception area for hearing impaired pupils and visitors  Improve parking for disabled visitors | Review signage around school e.g. clear directions to the disabled toilet.  Consider braille options on classroom doors  Ensure access to all doors is suitable for wheelchair users  Obtain quotes for a loop system. Consider a portable system which could be used around school  Create an accessible car park space | JV | Autumn 2025 |  |
| Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability | Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:   * Large print resources – available on request * Pictorial or symbolic representations | Ensure all communications can be accessed in a variety of ways. | School newsletter and communications are published in different formats e.g.online, paper and larger print if requested. Could consider Braille documents if needed.  Investigate having the online newsletter in a larger font.  Information is available on website to support pupils with special educational needs | JV/Office Team | Autumn 25 |  |
| Improve access to the school reception through main school doors | Wheelchair users can access the school but must use the hall as the entrance rather than the front door. | Make the front door accessible to all users | Investigate the possibility of a permanent or temporary ramp to the front door | JV | Autumn 25 |  |

# 4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every **3** years but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

# 5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

* Risk assessment policy
* Health and safety policy
* Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
* Special educational needs (SEN) information report
* Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

# Appendix 1: Accessibility audit

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Feature** | **Description** | **Actions to be taken** | **Person responsible** | **Date to complete actions by** |
| Number of storeys | Single storey | Ensure access to all classrooms via outside door for those with mobility difficulties. | PF | N/A |
| Corridor access | Large wide corridors | Ensure these remain clutter free | Class Teachers | Ongoing |
| Lifts | None | None – no stairs in building | N/A | N/A |
| Parking bays | Disabled parking is available near the infant school, users can park near the hall entrance as well | Ensure parking is shown to people who may have mobility difficulties  Consider marking out a designated parking bay | JV/Office team | Ongoing |
| Entrances | Main entrance is currently not accessible for wheelchair users.  Entrance via the hall is required | Ensure wheel chair users are aware they need to access via the hall and that they need to ring when they arrive to allow the office to go and let them in.  Investigate permanent or temporary ramp to the front door for entrance rather than having to use the hall. | Office team  JV | Ongoing  Autumn 25 |
| Ramps | Ramps to hall and some of the classrooms | Ensure all ramps remain in good repair and are kept clean and clutter free | PF | Ongoing |
| Toilets | 1 disabled toilet is available | Ensure this toilet remains in good working order and that it is accessible and not full of clutter | PF | Ongoing |
| Reception area | Large open reception area with half height desk and signing in system | Wheel chair users may need the screen adjusting so that they can sign in | Office team | Ongoing |
| Internal signage | Signage is clear on main exits | Latest buildings review Sept 24 identified areas where additional signage is required to ensure that all exit routes are clearly marked | PF | Autumn 24 |
| Emergency escape routes | These are clearly marked and checked regularly. Wheel chair users would need to be guided out of the building so that they use an appropriate route | Latest buildings review Sept 24 identified areas where additional signage is required to ensure that all exit routes are clearly marked  Ensure all staff are clear of which exits are best for wheel chair users. | PF | Autumn 24 |