



Ravensthorpe Primary School Accessibility Plan – 2020 to 2023

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1. Vision Statement:

Under the Equality Act 2010 schools should have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that “schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation”. According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

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

The Accessibility Plan is listed as a statutory document of the Department for Education’s guidance on statutory policies for schools. The Plan must be reviewed every three years and approved by the Local Governing Body. The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, an individual or the Head. At Ravensthorpe Primary School the Accessibility Plan will be monitored by the headteacher and evaluated by the Local Governing Body. The current Plan will be appended to this document.

At Ravensthorpe Primary School we are committed to working together to provide an inspirational and exciting learning environment where all children Explore, Succeed and Soar. We believe that children should feel happy, safe and valued so that they gain a respectful, caring attitude towards each other and the environment both locally and globally.

1) The Ravensthorpe Primary School Accessibility Plan was developed and drawn up based upon information supplied by the Local Authority, and consultations with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school. Other, outside agencies and specialists were consulted. The document will be used to advise other school planning documents and policies and will be reported upon annually in respect of progress and outcomes. The intention is to provide a projected plan for a three year period ahead of the next review date.

2) The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school’s Equality Compliance Document, and will similarly be published on the school website. We understand that the Local Authority will monitor the school’s activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.

3) Ravensthorpe Primary School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

4) The Ravensthorpe Primary School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to:-

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding the **curriculum** as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of their duties under the Equalities Act 2010); this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or schools visits – it also covers the provision of specialist or **auxiliary aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve and maintain access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary – this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

5) The Ravensthorpe Primary School Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

6) Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

7) This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Asset Management Plan
- Behaviour Policy
- Curriculum Statement
- Critical Incident Support Plan
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Equality Compliance Document
- School Improvement Plan
- Special Educational Needs Policy

8) The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this accessibility plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

9) Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for the Local Governor Board will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

10) The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

11) The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Local Governor Board.

12) The school will work in partnership with the Peterborough Keys Academies Trust (PKAT) in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.

13) The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

2. Aims and Objectives

Our Aims are:

- **Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability,**
- **Improve and maintain access to the physical environment**
- **Improve the delivery of written information to pupils,**

Our objectives are detailed in the Action Plan below

3. Current good practice

We aim to ask about any disability or health condition in early communications with new parents and carers. For parents and carers of children already at the school, we collect information through the data collection sheet regarding medical needs and at school parent's evenings.

Physical Environment

Disabled pupils participate in extra-curricular activities. Some aspects of extra-curricular activities present particular challenges, for example: lunch and break times for pupils with social/interaction impairments, after-school clubs for pupils with physical impairments, school trips for pupils with medical needs. The school accommodates for these needs and makes provision.

Curriculum

Some areas of the curriculum present particular challenges, for example: PE for pupils with a physical impairment. The pupil's needs are looked at with regard to the curriculum and when needed outside professional advice is obtained to accommodate for pupils needs.

Information

Different forms of communication are made available to enable all disabled pupils to express their views and to hear the views of others. Access to information is planned, with a range of different formats available for disabled pupils, parents and staff.

4. Access Audit

The school is a one storey building with wide corridors and several access points from outside. KS1 area is located in one part of the building and rooms are located off this KS1 central area. The hall is accessible to all from the KS1 and KS2 areas.

On-site car parking for staff and visitor includes two dedicated disabled parking bays. One door from the KS1 area to the outside KS1 playground is not fitted with a ramp or flat exit for use for wheelchairs but an alternative door can be used to access the outside area. All other entrances to the school are either flat or ramped and all have wide doors fitted.

The main entrance features a secure lobby and has been fitted with a low reception hatch, this being fully accessible to wheelchair users. There are disabled toilet facilities available. All these are fitted with a handrail and a pull emergency cord.

The school has internal emergency signage and escape routes are clearly marked.

5. Management, coordination and implementation

- We will consult with experts when new situations regarding pupils with disabilities are experienced.
- The Governors and Senior Leadership Team will work closely with PKAT partner schools and the board of Trustees.