

Hounsome Fields Primary School

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

2025 - 2028



Date of Approval:	Summer 2025
Date of Next Review:	Summer 2028

Hounsome Fields Primary School
Treetop Avenue. Basingstoke
Hampshire RG23 7GJ

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Accessibility Policy

Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA)- ***“Getting It Right For Future Generations”***

It draws on the guidance set out in Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils, issued by DfE in July 2002.

Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

Principles

- Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school’s aims and Equality Policy, and the operation of the school’s SEND policy
- The school recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA)
- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- To publish the Accessibility Policy on the website
- In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the SEND Code of Practice (2002)
- The school recognises and values parents’ knowledge of their child’s disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents’ and child’s right to confidentiality
- The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles, and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum

How we will achieve access for all

1. Starting points

1.1 Vision and values

Hounsome Fields Primary School has high ambitions for its disabled pupils and expects them to participate and achieve in every aspect of school life. The school will:

- set suitable learning challenges
- respond to pupils diverse needs
- overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils

The school aims to identify and remove barriers to disabled pupils in every area of school life and make all children feel welcome irrespective of race, colour, creed or impairment.

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1.2 Involvement

This will include:

- The views and aspirations of disabled children
- The views and aspirations of the parents of disabled children
- The views and aspirations of other disabled people or voluntary organisations
- The priorities of the local authority

1.3 Information gathering from pupil data and school audit

The definition of disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

“A person has a disability 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 carry out normal day to day activities”

About 7% of children under the age of 16 may have a disability.

Use of data:

The school will use all available information and data to identify disabled individuals and use the data to support the accessibility plan. Currently the data includes:

- Entry details including parental information
- SEND report data
- Advance information and consultation with Pre-schools and Health Service to identify disabled pupils before they start school

Outcomes:

The school will also make detailed analysis of outcome data at key checkpoints throughout the year to:

- Check the progress of these children
- Ensure these children are checked in lesson observations and Head teacher monitoring
- Check the achievements of disabled children in extra-curricular activities
- Ensure the five Every Child Matters outcomes are integrated into the school

2. Main priorities

2.1 Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum:

- Ensure that teachers and LSA's have the necessary training to teach and support disabled pupils
- Ensure the classrooms are optimally organised for disabled pupils
- Ensure all lessons provide opportunities for all pupils to achieve
- Check that all lessons are responsive to pupil diversity
- Provide that lessons involve work to be done by individuals, pairs, groups and the whole class
- Ensure that all pupils are encouraged to take part in music, drama and physical activities
- Check that staff recognise and allow for the mental effort expended by some disabled pupils i.e. lip reading for a deaf child, physical exercise for some disabled children

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- Ensure that all pupils and staff can effectively maximise the use of accessibility features built in to currently available technology
- Monitor and exploit the potential of new and future developments in ICT as a means of addressing current barriers to participation
- Provide staff, pupils and parents with the necessary skills and knowledge to create a positive attitude towards using technology as a tool for providing inclusive education
- Check that school visits are open to all
- Provide high expectations of all pupils
- Seek to remove all barriers to learning and participation

2.2 Improving the physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services:

- Check the layout of areas allow access for all pupils
- Ensure that wheelchairs can access the whole building
- Check that pathways around the school are logical and well signed
- Ensure emergency and evacuation systems inform all children, alarms being visual and auditory
- Provide décor and signage suitable for all children and not confusing or disorientating to those with visual impairment, autism or epilepsy
- Check that all areas are well lit
- Check to reduce background noise for hearing impaired children
- Hearing loop available at school office and in school hall
- Ensure furniture is selected and located to suit all children

2.3 Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information that is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled:

- Provide information in simple language, symbols, large print, audio tape or Braille for pupils who have difficulty with standard forms of print
- Ensure information is presented in user friendly ways to disabled pupils when working in groups
- Provide written information in different formats as required
- Ensure staff are familiar with technology and practices to support disabled pupils
- Check preferences expressed by the pupils or their parents

3. Making it happen

3.1 Implementation and action plans

In order to ensure that action is taken to meet the Accessibility Plan priorities, Hounsome Fields Primary School has drawn up an action plan to make things happen, which outlines how the requirements of the will be met. The Accessibility Action plan (see page 5) has been written using the Hampshire Self Audit Form.

3.2 Reviewing and revising

This policy will be reviewed and revised every 3 years or when necessary.

The plan is also available in the following formats, on request to the Headteacher: e-mail, enlarged print version, etc.

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Current provision:

Provision	Purpose	Outcome