



Horsforth School

Access Policy and Accessibility Plan

Last Reviewed	November 2019
Next Review Date	March 2026
Ratified by the Trustee Board	March 2023

Horsforth School Access Policy & Accessibility Plan

1. Aim

1.1 This policy aims to develop access to the curriculum, site access and access to information. More specifically, it aims to :-

Ensure that the school building and site is accessible to reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation for students and prospective students with a disability.

This plan should be read in conjunction with:

- The SEND policy and SEND information report;
- The positive behaviour policy;
- The admissions policy.
- The education of students with medical needs policy

1.2 Our objectives are to :

- Ensure all members of the school are aware of inclusion, equality and accessibility;
- To improve physical access to school resources and provision where reasonable improvements can be made;
- Respond to individual student need and proactively plan for the future;
- Continue to take into account legislation and ensure that statutory duties are being met by seeking advice from any relevant agencies;
- Ensure that any written information from school is accessible to all.

2. Context

With regard to access we believe that the following are important and they are guiding principles in all our work:

- Provide equality of opportunity for all;
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination;
- Promote positive attitudes and encourage the participation of all students;
- Provide appropriate support for a child or young person to achieve their full potential;
- Ensure all students have the opportunity to be educated alongside their peers within continuum of provision which supports each student appropriately;
- Plan for continuity and progression.

Horsforth School recognises that many of its students, visitors and staff, whether disabled or otherwise, have individual needs when seeking to make use of the school and facilities. However, Horsforth School also recognises the fact that for some users, the nature of their disabilities may mean that they experience specific difficulties related to accessing a curriculum, accessing sites of education whether internally and/or externally, and accessing information. As part of its ongoing commitment to Equal Opportunities and the delivery of an inclusive educational service, Horsforth School will endeavour to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made in order that people with disabilities receive the same standards of service as everyone else.

In the light of this, Horsforth School will:

- communicate to all staff that our policy for the provision of educational services ensures the inclusion of disabled people. Such communications will address the legal obligation of individuals and the organisation as a whole;
- provide appropriate disability awareness training for staff, which will explain the policy of Horsforth School towards disabled users and the effective implementation of access improvements;
- address acts of disability discrimination via existing conduct codes, where appropriate;
- encourage suppliers and contractors to adopt similar policies toward disabled people;
- educate our students on 'difference' and disability to promote inclusion for all.

In order to ensure that the services it provides effectively meet the needs of disabled customers, Horsforth School will:

- consult with disabled students, parents / carers staff and disability organisations;
- plan to make access improvements to enable disabled people to use its services more effectively;
- regularly review whether its education (and other) services are both accessible and effective, and take appropriate action;
- monitor the implementation and effectiveness of this policy and Access Implementation Plan on a regular basis;
- operate a procedure whereby disabled people can make improvement suggestions and request assistance.

3 Evaluation

This policy will be evaluated every three years by the Trustee Board to ensure it is still fit for purpose. Circumstances may require more frequent modifications.

4 Authors

This policy has been updated by KLM in March 2023.

5 Procedures

Procedures to support this policy are appended.

Appendix I: Horsforth School Accessibility Plan

This plan has been designed to consider:

- the extent of which students can access the school building and curriculum offer;
- the improvements that need to be made in order to increase accessibility of the physical environment of the school.

Considerations have been made in the following areas:

- Curriculum;
- Approach and Car Parking;
- Routes and External Level Change Including Ramps and Steps;
- Entrances, Including Reception;
- Horizontal Movement and Assembly;
- Vertical Movement and Internal Level Change;
- Doors;
- Toilets;
- Fixtures and Fittings;
- Information and signage;
- Means of Escape.

Access to the Curriculum				
Objective	Strategy / Task	By When	Success Criteria	Lead(s)
Ensure all students can access the full curriculum in line with their needs	Purchase Read Write gold and continue to use in exam settings if favoured by students	July 2027	All Students in year 11 who would benefit, have received training and practised using RWG. They will have completed exams using assistive technology software	SENDco SENDco SENDco
	More devices will be available for in class use to support SpLD such as Dyslexia	July 2027	Higher usage rate of ICT for SEND students Staff more aware and able to support student learning through ICT in the classroom	

Site Access				
Objective	Strategy / Task	By When	Success Criteria	Lead(s)
To improve physical aspects of the building to make it more accessible; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve the physicality of the building for students with visual impairments, and sensory difficulties 	Conduct audit with VI team termly/annually as required. To consider looking at lighting in corridors and in classrooms To consider line painting in high risk areas such as stairs and pavements To check handrail fittings on stairways To ensure corridors are kept clear at all times To consider braille signage To consider one way system usage to support movement around the building For students with significant needs to have risk assessments in place or PEEPs Consider paint colours, displays, visuals in classrooms etc	July 2027	Successful site audit from VI team Students report accessibility improved and meets needs	SENDco/ Facilities Lead

Access to Information				
Objective	Strategy / Task	By When	Success Criteria	Lead(s)

<p>To make information accessible for all</p>	<p>To use interpreters in parent meetings when required To enlist support of outside agencies to support parents with additional needs as required To review the use of colours and fonts on printed materials and signage Make the school website more accessible</p>	<p>July 2027</p>	<p>Accessibility feedback from parents will be positive</p>	<p>SENDco/ website coordinator/facilities lead</p>
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