

Newton Bluecoat Church of England Primary School
Accessibility Plan

Policy Owner: Curriculum, Standards and effectiveness Committee

Document History: Reviewed November 2025

Next review: Autumn Term 2026

Purpose of the Plan The purpose of this plan is to show how Newton Bluecoat CE Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

Definition of Disability 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.

Legal Background From September 2002, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 outlawed discrimination by schools and LA`s against either current or prospective disabled pupils in their access to education. It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented and reviewed and revised as necessary. This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum, which includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school, such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits;
- improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services, which includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
- improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled. eg. Hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about school events.

The information should take account of the pupils` disabilities and the preferred format of pupils and parents and be made available within a reasonable timeframe. Newton Bluecoat C E Primary School aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and other members of the school community favourably and, wherever possible, takes reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled pupils. As part of the school's continued communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders we continually look at ways to improve accessibility through data collection, and parental discussions.

Contextual Information The majority of the school building and playground is accessible for a child in a wheelchair, and all building work and plans for extensions and modifications have taken disability into account.

The Current Range of Disabilities within School The school has children with a limited range of disabilities which include Autistic Spectrum Disorder, and serious medical conditions with related susceptibility to infections. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts the LA professionals for assessments, support and guidance for the school and parents.

We have a few children who have asthma and all staff are aware of these children. Inhalers are kept in the classrooms and a record of use is noted.

A number of pupils have speech difficulties and receive help to learn how to form words.

Some children have allergies or food intolerances/cultural food choices.

All medical information is collated and available to staff in the school office.

We have competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates.

All medication is kept in a central safe and secure place which has easy access for First Aiders and staff members.

Administration of Medicines consent forms are filled in by parents outlining the illness and amount and time of medication. All medication that is given is recorded.

The schools inclusion manager/Senco, Mrs Watson, is committed to achieving the best outcomes for the pupils who attend our school and is always amenable to assisting staff and parents and other professionals as they seek the same.

Newton Bluecoat C E Primary School Accessibility Plan 2023-2022

Targets	Strategies	Outcomes	Timescales	Evaluation
Equality & Inclusion				
To ensure that the accessibility Plan becomes an annual item at the FGB meetings	The plan is updated, put on the website and Clerk to governors to add to list for FGB meetings.	Adherence to legislation	Annually	✓
To improve staff awareness of disability issues.	Review staff training needs. Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate.	Whole school community aware of issues. ASD training. Speech therapy training	On-going First aid renewals Aut 2016. Aut 2015, Aut 2016. Summer 2016 Autumn 2019 & ongoing.	✓
To ensure that all actions & policies consider the implications of disability access.	Consider during review of policies.	Policies reflect current legislation.	Ongoing	✓
To ensure children recovering from serious medical condition has minimal risk of contracting infections.	Parents to be reminded of need to inform school about infections that might cause problems.	Relevant children continue to make good recovery.	Half termly	✓
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT				
To ensure that, where possible, the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all children and adults and continue to improve access to the school's physical environment for all.	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by Governors. Suggest actions and implement as budget allows.	Modifications will be made to the school building to improve access.	Incorporated into termly premises monitoring.	✓

To ensure that all children are able to access all out-of-school activities. eg. clubs, trips, residential visits etc.	Review of out of school provision to ensure compliance with legislation.	All providers of out-of-school education will comply with legislation to ensure that the needs of all children are met.	On-going.	All activities are accessible to all children currently on roll. ✓
To provide specialist equipment to promote participation in learning by all pupils.	Assess the needs of the children in each class and provide equipment as needed. eg. special pencil grips, headphones, writing slopes etc	Children will develop independent learning skills.	Reviewed termly by SENCo.	✓
To meet the needs of individuals during statutory end of KS2 tests.	Children will be assessed in accordance with regular classroom practice, and additional time, use of equipment etc. will be applied for as needed.	Barriers to learning will be reduced or removed, enabling children to achieve their full potential.	Annually.	✓
WRITTEN/OTHER INFORMATION				
To ensure that all parents and other members of the school community can access information.	Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary.	Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary.	As needed.	✓
To ensure that parents who are unable to attend school, because of a disability, can access parents' evenings. Christmas productions Sports events etc.	Staff will endeavour to facilitate a face to face meeting within school. (or by phone if more convenient)	Parents are informed of children's progress.	Termly	✓