

# Accessibility Plan

**Updated:** September 2019

**Next review:** September 2022



Ratified by the Chair of Governors

Name: Muhammad Patel

Date: 03/09/2019

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muhammad Patel", is written over a horizontal line.

## **ACCESSIBILITY PLAN STATEMENT**

As a school we are committed to providing premises that are suitable and sufficient for all educational purposes and give access to a broad and balanced curriculum for all students, irrespective of special need or disability.

Green Oak Academy Girls' School's Governing Body supports the principles and aims of the LA's Access Strategy for Schools and Colleges and will work jointly with the LA to implement agreed objectives to meet the county's targets for improving access to schools and colleges.

The school will actively seek to improve access to services in the ways set out below and will maintain an action plan which sets out the steps the school will take to achieve this. The action plan will be reviewed annually and updated to take account of improvements made, future resource availability and changing needs in the target areas;

- Ensure the curriculum is differentiated to meet the learning needs of students with SEN and disabilities and that target setting is effective and appropriate for these students. Make available the written material usually provided to all students, in an appropriately presented form where necessary, to SEN & disabled students, including pictorial and oral formats and also to ensure that classroom organisation is planned to maximize learning opportunities.
- Manage and improve the physical environment of the school buildings and grounds to meet the needs of a range of disabled students currently on roll and prospective students.
- To establish a culture of mutual trust and respect between all members of the Green Oak Academy Girls' School community.
- To build a community that respects the celebration of achievement at all levels.

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## 1. 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 in the near future, 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: pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school.

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#).

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](#), '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.

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Current good practice</b> <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	<b>Actions to be taken</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>	<b>Date to complete actions by</b>
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with additional needs	<p>Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.</p> <p>We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.</p> <p>Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with additional needs.</p> <p>Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.</p> <p>The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.</p>	<p>Identify specific needs of pupils to reduce barriers to learning.</p> <p>Devise individual support plans for all pupils</p>	Head teacher	Ongoing
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	<p>Our environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required.</p> <p>Ground floor is fully accessible for disabled people.</p> <p>Corridor width ground floor is suitable.</p>	<p>Disabled toilets and changing facilities</p> <p>Disabled parking bays</p>	Governing Body	<p>Completed</p> <p>Jan 2021</p>
Improve the delivery of information to those with a disability	<p>Our school aims to use a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal signage</li> <li>• Large print resources</li> </ul>	<p>If the need arises then invest in resources that are in:</p> <p>Braille</p> <p>Create Pictorial or symbolic representations for key displays</p>	Head Teacher	Ongoing

## **4. Monitoring arrangements**

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

It will be approved by Chair of Governors.

## **5. Links with other policies**

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

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy

## Appendix 1: Accessibility audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of storeys	4 Floors, only ground floor has accessibility for disabled users	Improve staircase access for accessibility to all floors via installation of stair lifts/redevelopment of staircases	Governing Body	September 2022
Corridor access	Two corridors, one on ground floor and the other on first floor	Redevelop building to enable disabled access to all floors and widen corridors for wheelchair users. Ground floor entrance area to be widened to allow ease of movement for wheelchairs	Governing Body	September 2022
Parking bays	Two Parking bays at present	Redevelop front of building to include a dedicated disabled parking bay.	Governing Body	September 2022
Entrances	One main entrance with separate narrow ramp for disabled access. An additional second entrance to front with stair access. Access also possible to rear play area via drive way along the side of building	Redevelop front of building and entrance area to enable disabled users to approach main entrance door with ease and enter reception. Will require new DDA compliant door and construction of ramp to front. Also develop rear of building exit from canteen to accommodate wheelchairs and replace stairs with ramp.	Governing Body	September 2021
Ramps	One ramp to front of building and one ramp to back of building leading to playground	To incorporate ramps to front and rear of building so as to ease access for disabled users. This will mean creating new ramps to the entrance at the front and also whilst coming out of the building to the rear via canteen.	Governing Body	September 2021
Toilets	One DDA Compliant toilet constructed in January 2017	Further develop the DDA compliant toilet to provide a panic alarm system and installation of DDA compliant shower cubicle	Governing Body	September 2021

Reception area	One reception area with assisted access via narrow disabled ramp to front	Redevelop front of building and entrance/reception area to enable disabled users to access main entrance door with ease and enter reception. Will require new DDA compliant door and construction of ramp to front. Step inside reception area will need to be removed.	Governing Body	September 2021
Internal signage	Accessible Toilet marked with blue badge	Ensure all new signage is DDA compliant and further develop existing displays to enable ease of use for disabled users.	Governing Body	September 2022
Emergency escape routes	Escape routes via front and rear ramp on ground floor	Redevelop building to enable disabled users on all floors to escape in the case of an emergency. Consider creating fire-compliant refuge areas on fire escape routes as far as reasonably possible.	Governing Body	September 2022