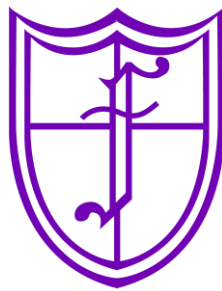




PORTICO
ACADEMY TRUST

opening doors, unlocking potential

Accessibility Plan



Date Written/Reviewed:	October 2023
Next Review Date:	October 2026
Person Responsible:	Sally Halls
Signature of Principal	<i>C. McClay</i>
Date:	October 2023

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. Friars Primary School and Nursery Trustees are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a ‘substantial’ and ‘long-term’ adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice 2015, ‘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.

1. We are committed to providing an accessible environment which 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 challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
2. We aim, over time, to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to Friars Primary School and Nursery.
3. This Accessibility Plan is drawn up to cover a three year period. Our Access Audit is reviewed regularly.
4. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the **physical environment** of Friars Primary School and Nursery, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of Friars Primary School and Nursery and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as are able-bodied pupils. This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of Friars Primary School and Nursery such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or Friars Primary School and Nursery visits. It also extends to the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
 - Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about our school and events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

The Access Audit of Friars Primary School and Nursery is undertaken regularly and informs the Accessibility Plan. Some items may roll forward into subsequent plans if they are not feasible to complete within the timespan of this plan. The Access Audit is revisited prior to the end of each three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Premises/Health and Safety Committee.

We acknowledge that there is a need for ongoing awareness raising and training for staff in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

Increasing access for disabled pupils to the school curriculum.

Improving teaching and learning lies at the heart of the school's work. Through self-review and Continuous Professional Development (CPD), we aim to enhance staff knowledge, skills and understanding to promote excellent teaching and learning for all children. We aim to meet every child's needs within mixed ability, inclusive classes.

It is a core value of the school that all children are enabled to participate fully in the broader life of the school. Consequently, all children are encouraged to attend age relevant after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities and educational visits. The only exception would occur if a child had breached school rules when deprivation of club attendance may be used as a suitable short term sanction and to ensure the safety of themselves and others.

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Time Frame	Achievement
All learning opportunities are appropriately adapted to ensure access by all pupils.	Training for all staff on effective adaptation.	Teachers are able to meet the needs of all the learners with regards to accessing the curriculum.	Ongoing	
To deploy Learning Support Assistants effectively to support pupils' participation.	Review needs of pupils within each class and staff accordingly. Ensure staff skills are matched to pupil needs.	Pupils' needs are appropriately met through effective deployment of skilled support staff.	Ongoing	
To ensure the PE curriculum is suitable for children with physical disabilities.	Review needs of pupils within each class and ensure appropriate differentiation.	Planning will be adapted to enable children with physical disability to make progress within PE.	As required/ Ongoing	

Improving access to the physical environment of the school.

Friars Primary School and Nursery continue to grow and develop our physical environment.

We have a range of equipment and resources available for day to day use. We keep resource provision under constant review. The school's improvement planning process is the vehicle for considering such needs on an annual basis.

We plan provision needs, when a pupil's specific needs are known.

Location	Item to improve Physical Access	Activity	Time Frame	Cost Approx
Outside areas	Playground stage area Sandpit on KS1 playground.	Playground stage needs a yellow edging to assist children with visual impairment. Sandpit needs a yellow edging to assist children with visual impairment.	Spring term 2024	£500
Internal areas, including corridors	Induction loop at Main Reception.	Install induction loop and train key staff how to use it.	Spring term 2025	£1,250
All areas	Obstacles to individuals	Risk assessments for all children in wheelchairs, using a frame, on crutches or in casts.	Ongoing	N/A

Improving the delivery of written information to disabled pupils

This will include planning to make written information that is normally provided by the school to its pupils available to disabled pupils. Examples might include handouts, textbooks and information about school events. The information will be made available, taking into account pupil disabilities and pupil, parent/carer preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

In planning to make written information available to disabled pupils we endeavour to establish the current level of need. The school will identify agencies and aim to source appropriate materials to enable provision when required. The schools IT infrastructure will enable us to access a range of materials supportive to need.

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Time frame	Achievement
Availability of written information in alternative formats	The school will stay informed of the services available for converting written information into alternative formats	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes e.g. braille	Ongoing	
Make available school brochures, newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats.	Promote the availability of material in different formats for those that require it. Include this information in the SEND information report.	All school information available through hard copy and website.	Ongoing	