



# **Whitley Abbey Primary School**

## **Accessibility Plan**

Reviewed March 2023

Next review March 2026

## **School Vision**

**At Whitley Abbey...**

**We aim for everyone to be valued, safe and happy.**

**We nurture the mental and physical wellbeing of our community.**

**We celebrate life experiences and enjoy sharing new ones together.**

**Through rich learning opportunities we help children to develop a love of learning.**

**We strive to open children's minds to life's possibilities.**

**Through the Whitley Core Values we develop kindness, friendship, courage, honesty, resilience and gratitude.**

**We are proud to have Team Whitley in our hearts.**

**Hand in hand we learn.**

## Accessibility

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled pupils, under Part 4 of the DDA:

1. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
2. to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
3. to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Proprietor/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:

1. increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
2. improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
3. improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary and reported on annually. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

## School Context

### The School's Context

Whitley Abbey Primary School and Nursery is a mainstream school for boys and girls age range 3 years to 11 years old. The school comprises of two school buildings, the main building which houses pupils from Year R -6 and the Nursery Annex. The main building has been extended to accommodate growing pupil numbers. There is disability access for all classrooms (a lift is provided to access the second floor of the newest block) and main areas of the school. There are four rooms situated on the first floor of the original building which have access for disabled pupils only from the outside of the building.

## Frameworks and Legislation

**We are working within a national framework for educational inclusion provided by:**

- Inclusive School (DfES 0774/2001)
- SEN & Disability Act 2001
- The SEN Revised Code of Practice 2014
- The Disability Discrimination Act (amended for school 2001)
- Code of Practice for Schools (Disability Rights Commission)
- OFSTED

## Accessibility Plan Aims

**Our Aims are to provide:**

1. Full access to the curriculum
2. Full access to the physical environment
3. Full access to information

### **Current Practise**

We aim to ask about any disability or health condition in early communications with new parents and carers as part of our school admission procedure.

All entrances to the school are either flat or ramped and have wide doors or double doors. The lobby is fully accessible for wheelchair users. There are disabled toilet facilities available fitted with a handrail and a pull emergency cord. The school has internal emergency signage and escape routes are clearly marked.

We support pupils with both physical disabilities and learning needs to access areas of the curriculum they find difficult. Where PE is a challenge for physically impaired pupils we seek expert advice for identified individual needs.

We consult with experts when new situations regarding pupils with disabilities are experienced.