

Accessibility Plan

Baltonsborough CE VC Primary School



Approved by:	Policy Reading Group	Date:	July 2024
Last reviewed on:	July 2024		
Next review due by:	July 2027		

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Baltonsborough CE VC Primary School

This plan was reviewed July 2024 and is due for renewal July 2027. Changes will be made as necessary and the document will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

1. This Accessibility Plan has been drawn up in consultation with the Local Authority, pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school and covers the period from September 2004
2. We are committed to providing a fully 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.
3. **Baltonsborough CE VC Primary School** plans, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA *Disability Discrimination Act*). This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
 - Improve the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.
5. Attached are Action Plans, relating to these key aspects of accessibility. These plans will be reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. New Plans will be drawn up every three years.
6. We acknowledge that there is a need for ongoing awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

7. The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:
 - Curriculum
 - Equal Opportunities and Diversity
 - Health & Safety (including off-site safety)
 - Inclusion
 - Special Needs and Disability
 - Behaviour Management
 - School Improvement Plan
 - Asset Management Plan
 - School Brochure and Mission Statement
8. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly by the Local Authority. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be 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.
9. The terms of reference for governors' Premises Committee will contain an item on "having regard to matters relating to Access".
10. The School Brochure will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.
11. The Plan will be monitored through the Buildings and the Premises Committees of the Governors.
12. The school will work in partnership with the local education authority (and Diocesan Authority) in developing and implementing this plan.
13. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.

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Improving the Physical Access at Baltonsborough CE VC Primary School

An Access Audit was carried out by Pete Smith of Somerset County Council in 2004 and a number of recommendations made:

Access Report Ref.	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost £
1	Accessible car parking	Bays to be signed in accordance with Part M standards	Achieved	
4	Dropped kerbs either side of main vehicle entrance.	Pedestrian access	Achieved	
6/11	Doors	Anti-glare film to be applied to the doors	Achieved	
29	Accessible toilet	To provide one unisex accessible toilet in A Block	Achieved	
18/20	Provision of induction loops	Reception	As need arises	TBC
24	Improve Reception facilities	The counter is lowered to a maximum height of 800mm, with knee-space under.	Achieved	
31	Light switches, power outlets and emergency alarm buttons	To be moved to wheelchair height, as money allows.	September 2017	TBC
29/3	Adapted wash basins to be at wheelchair height with space under for wheelchair to allow user to get close to wash basin.	To be moved to wheelchair height, as money allows.	Achieved	

Improving the Curriculum Access at Baltonsborough CE VC Primary School

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Timeframe	Achievement
Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum	Review the specific needs for pupils living with a disability, in terms of basic daily living skills, relationships and future aspirations.	Teachers are aware of the relevant issues and can ensure that this group has equality of access to life-preparation learning. The use of other professional partners has been made available.	Ongoing	
All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils	Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation	All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements	Good range of activities which include all children	Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils
Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases	Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual pupils	September 2024	Achieved
Training for Awareness Raising of Disability Issues	Provide training for governors, staff, pupils and parents Discuss perception of issues with staff to determine the current status of school	Whole school community aware of issues relating to Access	Ongoing	Society will benefit by a more inclusive school and social environment

Improving the Delivery of Written Information at Baltonsborough CE VC Primary School

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
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Availability of written material in alternative formats	The school will make itself aware of the services available through the LA for converting written information into alternative formats.	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes	As needed	Delivery of information to disabled pupils improved
Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats	Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it	All school information available for all	As needed	Delivery of school information to parents and the local community improved
Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with visual impairment	Get advice from HVSS on alternative formats and use of IT software to produce customized materials.	All school information available for all	As needed	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual difficulties improved.
Raise the awareness of adults working at and for the school on the importance of good communications systems.	Arrange training courses.	Awareness of target group raised	Achieved	School is more effective in meeting the needs of pupils.