

Bowness-on-Solway Primary School Policy For Accessibility Planning



Rationale

Accessibility Plans became mandatory for all schools in 2003. They describe the ways in which schools will ensure that they are accessible to the disabled, and the arrangements they have made to make sure that young people and adults with disabilities are not treated less favourably than the able bodied.

Schools must implement accessibility plans which are aimed at:

- ✓ increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum;
- ✓ improving the physical environment of schools to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided; and
- ✓ improving the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

The original regulations on Accessibility Plans continue to apply to schools, but the plans do not have to be 'stand-alone'. Since Disability Equality Schemes became mandatory in 2006, they can be included in these schemes or attached to other documents, such as the School Development Plan. The Equality Act 2010 recommended schools produce Single Equality Policies and Accessibility Plans can be included in these documents.

Practice

At Bowness-on-Solway Primary School, we include Accessibility Planning in the following policies:

- ✓ Our Equality Duty & Equality Action Plan: (Priority Area 2: Disability)
- ✓ Our Special Needs Policy
- ✓ Our SEN and Disability Local Offer: (Accessibility and Inclusion)
- ✓ Our School Development Plan: (for example Behaviour and Safety of Pupils)

These policies are reviewed on an annual basis in order to ensure that we are meeting the needs of disabled service users.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 12 months, or when new legislation applies.

Policy Reviewed January 2019 Signed: *S.A. Davies* (Head teacher)