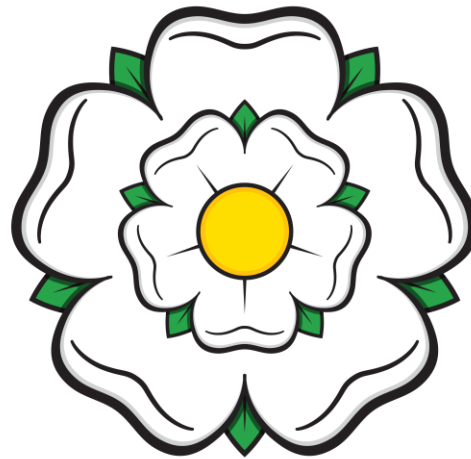


Accessibility plan



WENSLEYDALE
SCHOOL
LEYBURN

Approved by:	Governing Body	Date: July 2023
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Last reviewed on:	July 2025
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Next review due by:	July 2026
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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 pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum

Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided

Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities

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 school endeavours to identify and remove barriers to learning whenever possible;

The physical nature of the building aids accessibility – the design incorporates single lift, disabled toilet, and easy access fire doors; as well as specialist fire safety points. The school increases and promotes access for disabled pupils to the school curriculum by making appropriate adjustments as required, for example where classrooms are replicated on different levels classes are timetable on the ground floor to meet need. All staff are expected to differentiate work effectively to suit students with a wide range of different needs;

Teaching and learning is adapted to recognise different routes to achievement; Students with SEND are encouraged to access the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in enrichment clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits and adaptations are made to facilitate this as far as is possible; Equally, the school endeavours to ensure that written information is accessible to disabled students and their parents / carers. Examples include providing visual timetables for students who need them, producing copies on coloured paper or accessing extra size books for visually impaired students; Parents / carers are welcome to contact school via 'phone, email or letter to discuss any issues or concerns.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, 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, the complaints 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 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](#), '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 pupil with disabilities faces in comparison with a pupil without disabilities. 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.

Objective	Action(s)/Strategies	When	Success Criteria	Monitoring & Evaluation
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Regular review of curriculum to ensure full accessibility High expectations of all students Introduction of specialist courses for targeted students (where appropriate). Year 7 on entry Increased staffing to allow smaller classes in lower sets. Individualised timetables in Years 10 and 11	Yearly On going On going On going	Removal of barriers to learning and participation. Higher achievement by all. Fewer disaffected and under-achieving students.	SLT level - annually SIP priority

	Classroom organisation (strategies to meet immediate short term needs usually already in place – they have been applied before in similar cases)	On going	Students achieve target grades/levels.	All staff
	Personalised Learning & Assessment for Learning	On going	Classrooms optimally organised for disabled students. Class seating plans in all subjects	As part of the Options programme, consider the needs of the year group
	Range of Learning and Teaching strategies facilitated by high-quality ICT	Appropriate time	Students working at their own level and achieving their targets grades/levels	
	Deployment of auxiliary aids and personnel (SEN department)		Placement is appropriate	All staff
	Information and training for staff (SEN department + outside agencies)	Ongoing		
	Core department GTAs appointed, with specialist training. Training updated and provided on a needs basis	On going		SENCO
	The school will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS	On going		

Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	Improvements in lighting in all classrooms (LED)	Ongoing	Safer and easier access for students around the school site.	JPO for all
	Install handrails in key areas around the school (more than 2 steps)	Ongoing	Wheelchair access – no barriers to access on ground floor	
	Further improvements to signs	Ongoing	Improved level surface (tarmac), giving better surface drainage and safe accessibility.	
	Yellow markings (paint) on all steps (look also at external step nosings)	Annually	Skilled caretaker appointed	
	Parking spaces (two new disabled parking spaces were provided)	Autumn 23	Part of requirements of the programme to install disabled facilities	
	External hard surfaces (loose and broken paving slabs now being repaired as soon as they are reported – skilled caretaker employed to carry out Health and Safety repairs on a daily basis)	Ongoing		
	New toilet suites have all got open doorways to enable wheel chair access and disabled toilets facilities that meet DDA requirements.	Summer 24	Lights installed in darker areas of the site for the evening events	
	Dedicated Toilets for SEND medical needs and LGBTQ+		Door installed	
	Improved external lighting on the site	Summer 22		
	The school will take account of the needs of students and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of site and premises, such as improved lighting, acoustic treatment, colour schemes and more accessible facilities and fittings. (DfE Guidance ‘Accessible Schools’)	Autumn 25	Clear access route for students and visitors All DDA requirements met and planned for in advance	

Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability	Examination papers – GCSE are modified	Ongoing	Good links between exams officer and SENCO (Senior HLTAs)	Exams Officer/SLT
	Resource material is modified	Ongoing	Staff are following advice and students are receiving modified material	
	Liaison with MES/CAMHS/Ed PSych and other similar established – Psychiatric (where appropriate)	Ongoing	Effective exchange of information	
	Information for visitors with disabilities in writing on arrival	Autumn 23	Clear information including disabled parking availability, accessible WC provision, a portable induction loop, etc.	
	Install some visual fire alarms (i.e. in areas where others may not be present)	Summer 24	i.e. toilets	

4. Monitoring arrangements

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

It will be approved by the governing board

5. Links with other policies

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

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- SEND policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy