

RODE AND NORTON ST PHILIP SCHOOL FEDERATION



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RODE METHODIST FIRST SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN



Rode Methodist First School ACCESSIBILITY PLAN - 2015 to 2018



1. Rode Methodist First School Accessibility Plan has been drawn based upon information supplied by the Local Authority, and in conjunction with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school and will advise other school planning documents. The Accessibility Plan will be reviewed annually in respect of progress and outcomes, and provide a projected plan for the three years period ahead of the next review date.
2. The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. We understand that the LA will monitor the school's activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.
3. We are committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that 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 taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.
4. The Rode Methodist First School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school in a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant and timely actions to:
 - increase access to the curriculum for pupils with an identified impairment, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are non-disabled pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of duties under the Equalities Act 2010); 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 or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
 - 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 within a reasonable timeframe;

- improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include newsletters, timetables and information about the school and school events; the information will be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.
5. The Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.
 6. Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010 and in the context of Rode School.
 7. The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:
 - Equality Objectives
 - Rode Equality Policy
 - Health & Safety Policy (including off-site safety)
 - Special Educational Needs Policy
 - Behaviour Policy
 - School Development Plan
 - Asset Management Plan / Suitability Survey
 8. The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which was originally undertaken by the Local Authority and subsequently updated by the school and remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.
 9. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.
 10. The Accessibility Plan will be published on our school website.
 11. The School's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
 12. The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Governor Finance and Buildings Committee

13. The school will work in partnership with the Local Authority in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan
 14. The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during Inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

Approved DATE:
 Review date: Summer Term 2018

Accessibility Plan

Rode Methodist First School Accessibility Plan - 2014 to 2018: Improving the Curriculum Access

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
To develop a CPD programme to ensure staff are knowledgeable in terms of the needs of pupils with disabilities, including SEN, and strategies to support them	Identify staff training requirements and enhance knowledge through our Performance Management process; along with parent/carer and health professional engagement, as appropriate. Use INSET days, staff meetings and external courses to deliver CPD.	All staff fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs, including those with SEN, with regards to accessing the curriculum Monitored by HT and SENCo	Continuous	Increased access to an appropriate curriculum for all pupils
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 and if outside providers are	Continuous	Increase in access to all school activities such as trips out, residential visits, extended schools

		used they will comply with all current and future legislative requirements Monitored by HT		activities and sporting events for all pupils
To ensure 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	All children have full access to all areas of the classroom & the curriculum Monitored by HT.	Continuous	All children become independent learners.
Training for Governors in terms of Raising Awareness of Disability Issues	Identify needs & source training for governors	Whole school community Governing Body aware of issues relating to Access. Monitored by Chair of Governors	Continuous	Raising awareness of governors will benefit the whole school community by a promoting a more inclusive school and social environment
To deploy Teaching 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 Monitored by HT and SENCo	Continuous	All pupils are supported to achieve their full potential

3) Rode Methodist First School Accessibility Plan - 2014 to 2018: Improving the Physical Access

This plan is structured in conjunction with the school's Asset Management Plan, the school Safeguarding File, the School Travel Plan, Health & Safety Audits, the Capital Build Programme and the Suitability Plan. The plan considers the essential

work necessary to ensure reasonable adjustments have been made to the fabric of the main buildings to accommodate accessibility issues. In some cases Health & Safety issues necessitate more prompt action.

LOCATION	ITEM TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL ACCESS AND EGRESS	ACTIVITY	TIMEFRAME	Cost (est.) £
Car park	Provide accessible bay & signage	Car park area to be resurfaced & disabled parking bay identified & signed	BMIS Proposal 2014- 2015 c/f into 2016-17	
Playground	Resurface playground	Select surfacing, signage & equipment which allows equal access	Completed 2013/14	
All areas	Provide visual & tactile signage Ensure alarms and warnings are appropriate for the whole school community (e.g. hearing impaired)	Review signage in all areas & plan for replacement if necessary Review alarms and procedures in the context of the requirements of the school community, as and when required		
Main Entrance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audibility • Access 	Consider installation of a loop hearing system for the counter Provide a lower reception window.	If funding becomes available to develop front of school these measures will be incorporated in the design.	
Main corridor	Increase signage and aids for visual and hearing impaired	Improve lighting in central learning area by putting in 2 roof lights and review signage.		

WCs	Redesign & refurbish children's WC	Refurbish pupil WCs to include grab rails, tactile signage, flooring & new accessible locks, dryers and taps	Summer 2014 included redesign and upgrade of our 'Accessible Toilet' in our main building to include changing and fully accessible facilities.	
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Rode Methodist First School Accessibility Plan - 2014 to 2018 : Improving the Delivery of Written Information

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
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 such as use of symbols, communicate in print, large print or through augmentative communication technology, contrasting colours etc.	Continuous	Delivery of information to disabled pupils and parents improved
Make available 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 through hard copy and website, mindful of WC3 accessibility guidelines	Continuous	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 SCC on alternative formats and use of IT software to produce customized materials. Ensure	All school information available for all	As required	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual impairments improved.

	compliance with WC3 accessibility guidelines			
Raise the awareness of adults working at and for the school on the importance of using a range of communications systems and strategies according to individual need	Communication audit by Somerset Total Communication On-going Performance Management arrangements Training on range of issues such as functional use of language and managing STC plans Other training as required	Awareness of target group raised	As required	School is more effective in meeting the needs of all pupils.