

Moor Nook Community Primary School
Ribbleton Hall Drive, Preston PR2 6EE

School Accessibility Plan

Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA). It draws on the guidance set out in "Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils", issued by DfES in July 2002.

Moor Nook's School buildings are well designed to meet the needs of disabled pupils:

- There are 4 classrooms on the ground floor
- Use of these classrooms can be rotated to meet pupils' needs
- All public-access rooms, including front and back entrances, toilets, library, hall and community room are on the ground floor, with no steps
- A disabled toilet was installed in 2007
- Disabled access and parking were created in the summer of 2007
- Blinds on all the windows to reduce glare and all areas carpeted to reduce noise.
- Lighting on lower corridor improved to assist accessibility, 2008
- Plans for outdoor covered play for Foundation Stage all on one level to assist accessibility, Summer 2009

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):

"A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities".

Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, prospective pupils and our adult users with a disability.

Principles

1. Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN policy;
2. The school recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA):
 - not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
 - not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
 - to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
 - to publish an Accessibility Plan.
3. In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (2002).

4. The school recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.
5. The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
 - setting suitable learning challenges
 - responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
 - overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual and groups of pupils.

Activity

Moor Nook School has identified the following points for action as part of its School Improvement Plan, in order to achieve the key objective:

a) Delivery of the curriculum

School staff receive training in making the curriculum accessible to all pupils, and are aware of its importance.

The school will continue to seek and follow the advice of LE services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.

b) Physical environment

The school will take account of the needs of pupils and other users with physical difficulties and 'Sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

In particular:

- The height of the entry-phone near the community room has been reviewed and is acceptable.
- The height of the new entry-phone will be at an appropriate height for Wheel Chair Users – this has been reviewed and is acceptable.
- Signs in Braille will be prepared and put at the front entrance.
- Colour schemes for the classrooms will take into account the needs of visually impaired students. The last class to be painted has cream walls and a dark blue floor which provides a correct contrast for visually impaired students.
- Shower which can be used by wheelchair users on the ground floor.
- New French doors to Year 1/2 classes with a ramp for wheelchair access

c) Provision of information in other formats

The school is aware of local services, including those provided through the LE, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- School Improvement Plan
- Staff Improvement Plan
- SEN Policy
- EqualOpportunities policy
- Curriculum policies

Appendix

Date of Plan: October 2009

Date of Review: Spring Term 2010

The plan will be reviewed by the Health and Safety committee in October 2010.

The plan is also available in the following formats, on request to the headteacher: email; enlarged print version; other formats by arrangement.

Plan to be put onto the website.