# <u>Accessibility Plan</u> <u>Portal House School</u>



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#### 1. <u>Aims</u>

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 disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum.
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided.

Our school aims to treat all pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

We define equality in line with the Equality Act 2010 and recognise the following protected characteristics –

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage & civil partnership
- Pregnancy & maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request. Our school is also committed to ensure staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The schools supports any available partnerships to develop and implement this plan.

Our schools complaint procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have concerns relating to accessibility in school, the complaints procedure sets of the process for raising these concerns.

### 2. Legislation & Guidance

This document meets the requirements of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and the Department for Education (DofE) 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/or 'long- term' adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day-to-day activities.

Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability 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 disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. 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.

| AIM        | CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE                      | OBJECTIVES    | ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN       | PERSON<br>RESPONSIBLE | DATE TO<br>COMPLETE | SUCCESS CRITERIA         |
|------------|--|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
|            |  |               |                           |                       | ACTIONS<br>BY       |                          |
| - Increase | Our schools offers a differentiated        | Review        | Continue to monitor       | Dean Hill             | Ongoing             | All students making      |
| access to  | curriculum for all pupils.                 | curriculum    | students' progress and    |                       |                     | appropriate progress     |
| the        |  | offer in line | exam pathway, e.g.        |                       |                     | and gaining              |
| curriculum | We use resources tailored to the           | with the      | specific students to take |                       |                     | qualifications to        |
| for pupils | needs of pupils who require support to     | needs of the  | Entry Level examination   |                       |                     | support Post 16 transfer |
| with a     | access the curriculum.                     | students.     | in Science.               | Pete Bulteel          |                     | to appropriate           |
| disability |  |               |                           |                       | On going            | education                |
|            | Curriculum progress is tracked for all     |               | Enrichment activities to  |                       |                     | establishments.          |
|            | pupils, including those with a disability. | Introduce     | be researched. Staff      |                       |                     |                          |
|            |  | 'Enrichment'  | skills to be audited for  |                       |                     | Enrichments program in   |
|            | Targets are set effectively and are        | curriculum    | curriculum offer.         | Rose                  |                     | place for all students.  |
|            | appropriate for pupils with additional     | for all       | Consultation with         | Bradley               |                     | Success monitored and    |
|            | needs                                      | students.     | students and timetable    |                       | On going            | adaptations made.        |
|            |  |               | set for Wednesday P.M.    |                       |                     |                          |
|            | The curriculum is reviewed to make         |               |                           |                       |                     | All Portal House Plus    |
|            | sure it meets the needs of all pupils.     |               | Form teachers to take a   |                       |                     | student monitored and    |
|            |  |               | greater role in the       |                       |                     | supported as part of     |
|            | Special arrangements during exams are      |               | support of Portal House   |                       |                     | normal form group        |
|            | put in place for all students.             |               | Plus students.            |                       |                     | support.                 |

| AIM  | CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE  | OBJECTIVES   | ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN   | PERSON<br>RESPONSIBLE         | DATE TO<br>COMPLETE<br>ACTIONS BY    | SUCCESS CRITERIA   |
|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Improve the<br>delivery of<br>information<br>to pupils<br>with a<br>disability | <ul> <li>Our school uses a range of communication methods to make sure information is accessible. This includes: <ul> <li>Internal signage.</li> <li>Pictorial or symbolic representations.</li> <li>Use of electronic systems</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  | Audit of need taken.<br>To have larger print<br>documents available if<br>necessary.   | Questionnaire to<br>parents and students<br>requesting that they<br>highlight accessibility<br>tools that would be<br>beneficial to them.<br>Policies and | Rose Bradley<br>Vanessa       | December<br>2022<br>As and when      | School fully aware of<br>any unmet needs of<br>school community and<br>can begin to plan for<br>the support of all in<br>terms of delivery of<br>information.              |
|  | and texting to support parent engagement.  | Research access to<br>translation of policies and<br>information should they be<br>needed in the future.   | information available<br>to be transferred to<br>large print as<br>necessary.<br>Research information<br>and resources.                                   | Clewlow<br>Vanessa<br>Clewlow | required<br>As and when<br>required. |  |
| Improve and<br>maintain<br>access to<br>the physical<br>environment            | As a relatively new build, the<br>school has been designed to be<br>accessible to all students. The<br>environment is adapted to the<br>needs of pupils as required. This<br>includes –<br>• Ramps<br>• Elevators<br>• Large corridor width<br>• Disabled parking bays<br>• Disabled toilets and<br>changing facilities<br>• Library shelves at<br>wheelchair accessible<br>height | To do an audit of<br>accessibility to ensure that<br>the school is accessible to<br>any child with a disability<br>and to keep up to date with<br>current knowledge and<br>technology. | Audit to take place.  | Rose Bradley                  | December<br>2022                     | School buildings are<br>accessible to all<br>students and staff.<br>Research is in place to<br>make reasonable<br>adjustments for new<br>student who have<br>disabilities. |

### 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 governing body and head teacher.

It will be approved by the governing body and head teacher.

#### 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.
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy.