



Branston Church of England Infant Academy

Accessibility Policy and Plan

Policy Co-ordinator: Mrs Lianne Cook
Original Policy Dated: May 2018
Reviewed Policy Date: November 2024
Presented to Local Council: July 2026
Date to be Reviewed: December 2027
Cycle Review: 3 Yearly

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this plan is to show how Branston Church of England Infant Academy intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

Definition of Disability

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.

Legal Background

In line with the Equalities Act 2010 and Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 2002, 1995, it is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Academy Committee of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties of the DDA:

- Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum, which includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school, such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits.
- Improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services, which includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
- Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled e.g. handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about school events. The information should take account of the pupils' disabilities and the preferred format of pupils and parents and be made available within a reasonable timeframe.

Branston Church of England Infant Academy aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, Academy Committee Members and other members of the school community favourably and, wherever possible, take reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but aims to support them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life.

As part of the school's continued communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders we continually look at ways to improve accessibility through data collection, questionnaires and parental discussions.

Contextual Information

The school is a single storey building. There is a ramp up to the school entrance and a ramp out onto the playground. Double doors are to the front and the rear of the school. We have a disabled parking bay located near the front entrance. Dining room tables have fixed stools but there is space for a wheelchair at the end of the tables. All classrooms, apart from two, have wide access doors as well as 'The Nest' and 'The Hive'. The school has an accessible toilet facility located off 'The Hive' and a second accessible toilet in the Little Owls toilet. This accessible toilet has a height-adjustable bed for changing. The school also has two sensory spaces, which can be accessed throughout the day. All reasonable adjustments would be made for a child with additional accessibility requirements should it be necessary.

The Current Range of Disabilities within Branston Church of England Infant Academy

The school has children with a range of disabilities which include Cystic Fibrosis, Downs Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Global Developmental Delay, Sensory Impairment and Speech Language and Communication Difficulties. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts the local authority professionals for assessments, support and guidance for the school and parents. Staff receive regular training and support to meet these diverse needs. We have children who have asthma, allergies and food intolerances. All staff are aware of these children. Inhalers and epi-pens are kept in a designated first aid box, in a safe but accessible place and a record of use is noted. All medical information is kept in classroom 'grab files' (with permission from parents) as well as on children's electronic files, so that all staff are aware of any medical needs a child may have. We have competent First Aiders who hold current Paediatric First Aid certificates. All medication (apart from epi-pens and inhalers) are kept in a locked cabinet in the school office (with two key entry) and any medication that needs to be stored in a fridge is kept in a lockable fridge box in the staff room. Administration of Medicines consent forms are filled in by parents outlining the illness and amount and time of medication. All medication that is given is recorded in the Administering Medication Policy.

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Targets	Strategies	Outcome	Timeframe	Achieved
EQUALITY AND INCLUSION				
To ensure that the accessibility plan is discussed at Academy Committee Meeting	Inclusion in regular agenda	Adherence to legislation	Annually	On going
To improve staff awareness of disability issues	Review staff training needs. Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate	Whole school community are aware of responsibilities and issues	On-going	On going
To ensure that all policies consider the implications of disability access	Consider during review of policies	Policies reflect current legislation	On-going	achieved
To ensure that any child recovering from serious medical condition/operation has minimal risk of contracting infections while in school and any additional needs as a result of this are met	Parents to be reminded of the need to inform the school about infections/medical procedures and outcomes	School is informed by parents and any additional needs as a result are catered for and the child is safe and able to access learning	On-going	On going
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT				
To ensure that, where possible, buildings and grounds are accessible for all children and adults	Audit of accessibility to building and grounds to be carried out. Suggest actions as budget allows	Modifications made as appropriate	On-going	On going
CURRICULUM				
To continue to train staff to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEND	SENCo to review the needs of children and provide training/support as appropriate	Staff can enable all children to access the curriculum	On-going	On going
To ensure that all children are able to access all out of school activities e.g. clubs, trips, visits	Review out of school provision to ensure compliance with legislation	All providers of out of school education will comply with legislation to ensure that the needs of all children are met.	On-going	On going
To provide specialist equipment to promote participation in learning by all pupils	Assess the needs of the children in each class and provide equipment as needed e.g. special grips, headphones, writing slopes etc	Barriers to learning will be reduced or removed, enabling children to achieve their full potential	Annually	On going
WRITTEN/OTHER INFORMATION				
To ensure that all parents	Written information will	Written information	As needed	achieved

and other members of school community can access information	be provided in other formats as necessary e.g. large print, coloured paper	will be provided in other formats as necessary e.g. large print, coloured paper		
To ensure that parents who cannot attend school because of disability, can access parents' consultations	Staff to contact parents by phone or send home written information	Parents are informed of children's progress	Termly	On going



Accessibility Policy and Plan – Amendments

Date Requested	Changes
September 2019	'Governors' amended to 'Local Councillors' to reflect changes to school governance.
December 2024	'Local Councillors@' amended to 'Academy Committee'
July 2026	The addition of a second accessible toilet in Little Owls toilets, amendment to storage of medication and policy. Amendment of range of needs to include Downs Syndrome. Amendment of 'first aiders' to 'paediatric first aiders'.