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Accessibility Plan

2016-2017



**Accessibility Plan**

**Introduction**

The **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEN/D) Act 2001** extended **The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA)** to cover education. In order to uphold the principles of these Acts, Thames View Junior School and its Governing Body have had three key duties towards disabled pupils;

* not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
* to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
* to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

Thames View Junior School is 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. The Plan sets out the school and governor’s proposals to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas:

* to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
* to improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
* to improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

Whole school training will recognise the need to continue training awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

This Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policy documents:

Equality Plan

Behaviour Policy

Curriculum Policies

Health and Safety Policy

Special Educational Needs Policy

The SEN Information

School Development Plan

Equal Opportunities Policy

**1) Access to the Curriculum**

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| **Action Points** | **Strategies** | | **Timescale** | **Responsibility** | **Success Criteria** |
| To liaise with the Infant School to review potential intake each September | To identify pupils who may need special provision | | On-going | Y3 teachers and SENCO | School is aware of any children due to start school who may have additional needs |
| To review all statutory policies to ensure that they reflect inclusive practice and procedure | To comply with the Equality Act 2010 | | On-going | Headteacher and governors | All policies clearly reflect inclusive practice and procedure |
| To establish close liaison with parents and outside agencies for pupils with on-going additional needs. | To ensure collaboration between all key personnel | | On-going  As required | All Key staff members | Personalised plans are in place for any disabled pupils, and all staff are aware of pupils’ needs. |
| Ensure support staff have specific training on disability issues | Identify training needs at regular meetings | | On going | SENCO / Headteacher | Raised confidence of support staff |
| Ensure all staff (teaching & non -teaching) are aware of disabled children’s curriculum access | Set up a system of individual assess plans for disabled children when appropriate.  Share information with all agencies involved with each child | | In place September 2016 | SENCO | All staff are aware of individuals’ needs |
| All school visits and trips need to be accessible to all pupils | | Ensure venues and means of transport are vetted for suitability.  Develop guidance on making trips accessible | Ongoing | Class Teachers/SLT | All pupils are able to access all school trips and take part in a range of activities |
| Review PE curriculum to ensure PE is accessible to all pupils | | Review PE curriculum to include disability sports | September 2016 | PE co-ordinator / SLT | All pupils have access to PE and are able to excel. |
| Review curriculum areas and planning to include disability issues | | Include specific reference to disability equality in all curriculum reviews | Annually | SENCO / Headteacher / SLT | Gradual introduction of disability issues into all curriculum areas |
| Ensure disabled children can take part equally in lunchtime and after school activities | | Discuss with ‘Out of school Club’ staff, and people running other clubs after school. Support would have to be available – especially after school. | As required | SENCO / PE co-ordinator | Disabled children feel able to participate equally in out of school activities. |

* 1. **Access to the Physical Environment**

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| **Targets** | | **Strategies** | | **Timescale** | | **Responsibility** | | **Success Criteria** | |
| Improve the physical environment of school | | The school will take account of the needs of pupils, staff and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site. | | On going | | Headteacher and Governors | | All newly refurbished areas are designed with accessibility in mind. | |
| Ensure everyone has access to the main reception area | | Ensure that nothing is preventing wheelchair access-e.g. displays or furniture or carpeting | | On going | | Headteacher and caretaker | | All access routes are clear from obstructions | |
| All external areas of the school are clearly lit at night | To install lighting across the back of the school to illuminate the Hudson room and playground | | | Checked regularly | | Premises committee and Health and Safety committee | | All external areas of school are clearly lit at night | |
| Maintain safe access for visually impaired people | | | The edges of all steps to be regularly painted with textured white paint. | | On-going | | Head Teacher/ Governors and Health and Safety committee  Head teacher /Governors and Health and Safety committee | | School is accessible for visually impaired pupils, staff and visitors. |
| Ensure there are enough fire exits around school that are suitable for people with a disability | | | Ensure staff is aware of need to keep fire exits clear. | | Daily | | All staff/ Headteacher | | All disabled personnel and pupils have safe independent exits from school |

* 1. **Access to information**

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| **Targets** | **Strategies** | **Timescale** | **Responsibility** | **Success Criteria** |
| Inclusive discussion of access admission procedures and to information in all parent/teacher annual meetings | Access a translator to facilitate the admission process and participation in meetings with school staff.  Ask parents about preferred formats for accessing information eg braille, other languages  Translation Tool to be added to website to allow multi-lingual access | Annually | SENCO / Headteacher  SENCO / Headteacher | Staff are more aware of preferred methods of communication, and parents feel included.  School website will become accessible to all |