



Horsforth School

Access Policy and Accessibility Plan

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1. Aim

- 1.1 This policy aims to develop access to the curriculum, site access and access to information. More specifically, it aims to :-
Ensure that the school building and site is accessible to reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation for students and prospective students with a disability.
- 1.2 Our objectives are to :
- Utilise potential sources of funding to improve physical access to school
 - Develop an individualised school plan to increase accessibility
 - Respond to individual student need and proactively plan for the future
 - Use funding to improve physical access to school through the Schools' Access initiative and other funding streams
 - Continue to take into account legislation and ensure that statutory duties are being met by seeking advice from any relevant agencies
 - Ensure that any written information from school is accessible to all.

2. Context

With regard to access we believe that the following are important and they are guiding principles in all our work:

- Equality of opportunity
- Appropriate support for a child or young person to achieve their full potential
- All students should have the opportunity to be educated alongside their peers within continuum of provision which supports each student appropriately
- Continuity and progression

Horsforth School recognises that many of its students, visitors and staff, whether disabled or otherwise, have individual needs when seeking to make use of the school and facilities. However, Horsforth School also recognises the fact that for some users, the nature of their disabilities may mean that they experience specific difficulties related to accessing a curriculum, accessing sites of education whether internally and/ or externally, and accessing information. As part of its ongoing commitment to Equal Opportunities and the delivery of an inclusive educational service, Horsforth School will endeavour to ensure that reasonable adjustments are made in order that people with disabilities receive the same standards of service as everyone else.

In the light of this, Horsforth School will:

- communicate to all staff that our policy for the provision of educational services ensures the inclusion of disabled people. Such communications will address the legal obligation of individuals and the organisation as a whole
- provide appropriate disability awareness training for staff, which will explain the policy of Horsforth School towards disabled users and the effective implementation of access improvements
- address acts of disability discrimination via existing conduct codes, where appropriate
- encourage suppliers and contractors to adopt similar policies toward disabled people

In order to ensure that the services it provides effectively meet the needs of disabled customers, Horsforth School will:

- consult with disabled students, parents / carers staff and disability organisations
- plan to make access improvements to enable disabled people to use its services
- regularly review whether its education (and other) services are both accessible and effective, and take appropriate action.
- monitor the implementation and effectiveness of this policy and Access Implementation Plan on a regular basis.
- operate a procedure whereby disabled people can make improvement suggestions and request assistance.

3 Evaluation

This policy will be evaluated every three years by the Strategy & Personnel Committee of the Governing Body to ensure it is still fit for purpose. Circumstances may require more frequent modifications.

4 Authors

This policy has been updated by RHA in May 2016.

5 Procedures

Procedures to support this policy are appended as follows:

Appendix I: Horsforth School Accessibility Plan 2016 – 2019

These actions have been composed as a result of an audit of accessibility carried out in June 2016 in the following areas:

- Curriculum
- Approach and Car Parking
- Routes and External Level Change Including Ramps and Steps
- Entrances, Including Reception
- Horizontal Movement and Assembly
- Vertical Movement and Internal Level Change
- Doors
- Toilets
- Fixtures and Fittings
- Information
- Means of Escape

Access to the Curriculum				
Objective	Strategy / Task	By When	Success Criteria	Lead(s)

Site Access				
Objective	Strategy / Task	By When	Success Criteria	Lead(s)

Access to Information				
Objective	Strategy / Task	By When	Success Criteria	Lead(s)