

Equalities Act 2010 and School Accessibility Plans



This is a reminder to Governors about their statutory duty under the Equalities Act 2010 to ensure that their School has a current Accessibility Plan in place. The Plan must identify the strategies to be used by the school to increase access for those with disabilities. The Plan must identify how the school will:

- *increase curriculum participation by disabled pupils;*
- *improve the physical environment of the school to enable better access for those with disabilities to education, facilities and services provided;*
- *improve the accessibility to information for those with disabilities*

The school Accessibility Plan can be produced as a discrete document, or incorporated within other appropriate school documentation, for example, the School Development Plan or the School Equality Plan.

The following are examples of issues that should be included within the Plan:

- *The way in which the curriculum is differentiated and, at Key Stage 4, any alternative accreditation offered.*
- *How information for pupils, parents and the community can be made available in different formats, e.g. Widgit symbols, Braille, larger font.*
- *Plans to improve the signage and access in the buildings and grounds.*
- *Arrangements that could be put in place if a disabled parent needed support to attend a school event, e.g. the availability of a signer for a parents' evening.*

A reminder letter was sent to schools in December, 2016.

Governors – are you confident that your Accessibility plans are up to date?

- *Do you publish information on your school website to demonstrate your success in complying with the Public Sector Equality Duty?*
- *Do you prepare and publish equality objectives?*

Further information can be found at:

Equality and Human Rights Commission – Reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/reasonable-adjustments-disabled-pupils>