

SAPIENTIA EDUCATION TRUST



OLD BUCKENHAM
HIGH SCHOOL

OLD BUCKENHAM HIGH SHOOL

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

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Executive summary	This policy has been reviewed and amendments made in order to comply with Trust requirements and those of the Local Authority
Review Body	School
Endorsed by	Governing Body
Review frequency & next review due	Every 2 years or as required – March 2024
Comments	This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body every 2 years or as required.

Endorsed by **Old Buckenham High School** Governing Body on 25th March 2022

Introduction

At Old Buckenham High School we are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their age, education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

Context

Legislation and guidance

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

Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) 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.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Our Aim

At Old Buckenham High School, we aim to continue to improve all aspects of the physical environment of the school site and other resources so that all disabled students, staff and parents/ carers can take full advantage of the education and associated opportunities provided by the school.

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
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

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

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

Old Buckenham High School is part of the Sapientia Trust and works alongside the Norfolk County Council. The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, the complaints procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school.

Improving awareness of equality and inclusion

The school will improve awareness of equality and inclusion by:

- The Full Governing Body reviewing the schools Accessibility Plan bi-annually
- Provide on-going training to all staff on supporting students with a disability
- Proactively promote a school culture of support, acceptance and understanding of students with disabilities
- Use the school curriculum to positively promote equality and diversity.

Improving access to the curriculum for students with disabilities

The school currently provides:

- A broad and balanced curriculum for all our students, including those with SEND
- Additional and appropriate support for students with SEND through our school SEND policy
- Appropriate differentiation for students with disabilities to support their learning e.g. large print/ pictorial formats/ laptops/hearing loops etc.

The school is committed to an on-going process of further improving and developing existing knowledge, understanding and practice by:

- A cycle of on-going staff training to fully support student learning for those with disabilities
- Further raising all stakeholder's awareness of disability and discrimination
- Continuing to fully monitor and review the curriculum accessibility for current and future students with disabilities including access to lunchtime and after school activities

The school will work in close partnership with the LA and other specialist organisations to ensure that the curriculum needs of all students with a disability are fully met.

Improving access to the physical environment of the school

At Old Buckenham High School we currently provide:

- Complete a regular review of school site access arrangements, in conjunction with Trust Health and Safety Officer, and movement for all students/ staff / parents and visitors to ensure full access to the school site.

- Monitor the layout of furniture and equipment in classrooms and around the school site so as to maintain/ further improve access.
- Review all off provision/ school visits to ensure suitable access is provided for students with disabilities.
- Provide bespoke arrangements for access and movement around the school site for disabled students that have particular individual needs.

Curriculum delivery

Old Buckenham High School has an unwavering commitment to provide all students with a disability access to a broad and balanced curriculum. The school actively seeks the support and advice of all relevant services to ensure that the curriculum is accessible to all students. Relevant modifications to the delivery of the curriculum are negotiated on an individual basis as required.

The Old Buckenham High School Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with other relevant documents including:

- SEND Policy
- Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy

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 RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
<p>Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability</p>	<p>Our school offers at times offers a differentiated curriculum when we feel it would benefit the individual.</p> <p>We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.</p> <p>Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities</p> <p>Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability</p> <p>Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs</p> <p>The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils</p>	<p>To ensure the curriculum meets the needs of all pupils.</p> <p>To give every pupil access to our curriculum</p> <p>To ensure targets are relevant, suitable and an appropriate level for the needs of pupils.</p>	<p>To ensure all pupils who need support receive this.</p>	<p>SENCO</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>All pupils will receive a curriculum to meet their needs and aspirations</p> <p>Resources for individual pupils will be well matched and help them to make progress</p> <p>All data for all pupils will be tracked regularly</p> <p>The curriculum is reviewed and adjusted to ensure it meets the needs of the cohort of pupils in present time</p>

AIM	CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE	OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
<p>Improve and maintain access to the physical environment</p>	<p>The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramps • Elevators • Corridor width • Disabled parking bays • Disabled toilets and changing facilities • Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height 	<p>To provide better facilities for those who need environmental adaptations.</p>	<p>A review of the site as it is and what changes need to be made to ensure it is fit for purpose.</p> <p>Where the site is not fit for purpose to make reasonable adjustments so it can be used by all pupils.</p> <p>Regular health and safety access audit, undertaken by health and safety officer of the Trust. This informs the risk management strategy of the site and the site improvement plan.</p>	<p>Headteacher and Health and Safety Officer.</p>	<p>Termly audit</p>	<p>To have a school site accessible to all.</p>

AIM	CURRENT GOOD PRACTICE	OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DATE TO COMPLETE ACTIONS BY	SUCCESS CRITERIA
<p>Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability</p>	<p>Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal signage • Large print resources • Pictorial or symbolic representations • Adult support for those who need further communication 	<p>To make sure all pupils have access to all information</p>	<p>More signage and timetables built using pictures (widget)</p> <p>Ensuring staff are aware of how pupils should be communicated with</p> <p>Working closely with other agencies to support communication such as teacher of the deaf</p>	<p>SENCO</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>For the school to have all information accessible to it's pupils and staff.</p>

4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every **2** years but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary. It will be approved by The Governing and Headteacher.

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

