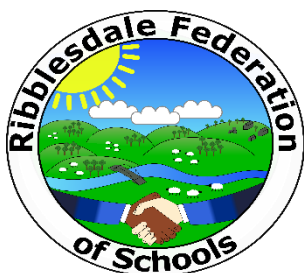




# The Ribblesdale Federation of Schools

Do Everything in Love (1 Corinthians 16:14)



## Accessibility Action Plan and Policy

| Document Status                 |   |   |   |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Date of policy creation/review  | Reasons for review  | Date of adoption by the Governing Board | Date of next review   |
| November 2022                   |   |   | November 2025   |
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|                                 |   |   |   |
| Signed and dated: November 2022 |   |   |   |
| Executive Headteacher           |  | Chair of Governors                      |  |

## Accessibility Action Plan and Policy

### Introduction

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in relation to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010.

The Governing Board are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that “schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation”.

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

At The Ribblesdale Federation we ensure we follow the Equality Act 2010 and ensure protection against discrimination, harassment and victimization (direct or indirect) for everyone under the nine characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, and pregnancy and maternity. This includes Gender Reassignment (also known as Transgender). The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

### Definition of special educational needs

In this policy, ‘special educational needs’ refers to a learning difficulty that requires special educational provision. The SEND Code of Practice 0 to 25 Years (DfE, 2014) says children have a learning difficulty or disability if they:

- have significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age; or
- have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in mainstream schools or post-16 institutions; and
- are under compulsory school age and are likely to fall within either of the definitions above when they reach compulsory school age or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them.

Children must not be regarded as having a learning difficulty solely because the language or form of language of their home is different from the language in which they will be taught. Our Special Educational Needs Policy and Information Report outlines the school’s provision for supporting pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and the Equalities Scheme explains how we ensure equal opportunities for all our students, increased access to the curriculum, physical access to the school and access to information particular to students with SEND. This accessibility plan provides an outline of how the school will manage this part of the SEND provision.

### Improving Physical Access

| Target   | Strategies  | Timescale   | Success criteria  |
|--|---|-------------|---|
| To be aware of the access needs of disabled children, staff, Governors and parents/ carers | Ensure the school staff & Governors are aware of access issues (‘access’ meaning ‘access to’ and ‘access from’)<br>Create access plans for individual disabled children as part of the SEND process<br>Ensure staff and Trustees can access areas of school used meetings<br>Annual reminder to parents and carers through newsletter to let us know if they have problems with access to areas of school | As required | SEND objectives are in place for disabled pupils, and all staff are aware of pupils’ needs<br>All staff & Governors are confident that their needs are met<br>Continuously monitored to ensure any new needs arising are met<br>Parents have full access to all areas of school |

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
|   | Ensure a PEEP (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan) is prepared and reviewed if someone at school (pupil or adult) becomes physically impaired<br>Communication in print around school to help children's understanding and visual recognition   |   | PEEPs are prepared and reviewed as individual needs change   |
| Maintain safety for visually impaired people  | Check if any children have a visual impairment resulting in yellow paint being needed on step edges and other edges<br>Check exterior lighting is working on a regular basis<br>Put black/ yellow hazard tape on poles at end of play equipment to help visually impaired children, if appropriate<br>Check flashing beacons that signal fire alarm activation regularly          | Annually, and as new children join the school throughout the year | Visually impaired people feel safe in school grounds. Yellow edges and flashing beacons to be monitored as needed throughout the school year   |
| Lunchtime in own classroom  | Ensure children who need longer to eat lunch have more time during lunchtime  | Daily   | All children can access adequate time for lunch  |
| Ensure there are enough fire exits around school that are suitable for people with a disability | Daily health and safety checks of the school and its surroundings<br>Ensure staff are aware of need to keep fire exits clear  | Daily   | All disabled personnel and pupils have safe exits from school  |
| Whole School Evacuation   | Ensure all children with physical disabilities can be safely evacuated from building in the event of an emergency (ensure all staff are aware of their responsibilities)<br>Children to have PEEP's if needed   | Annually, and as new children join the school throughout the year | All physically disabled persons can be safely evacuated.   |
| Accessible car parking  | Disabled members of staff and visitors have a place to park in the staff car park near the playground gates into the school<br>o There is a place for disabled members of staff and visitors to park throughout the school day. Page 4 of 5<br>o The gate into the playground can be opened to allow people with mobility issues/ wheel chairs to access the main school building | On-going  | There is a place for disabled members of staff and visitors to park throughout the school day (H and LP)The gate into the playground can be opened to allow people with mobility issues/ wheel chairs to access the main school building |

### Improving Curriculum Access

| Target                                    | Strategies  | Timescale | Success criteria  |
|---|---|-----------|---|
| Access to learning and in-class provision | Review SEND children's access to curriculum within class sessions<br>Observations to be carried out within class to ensure children can access sessions and have access to equipment and adapted resources where needed | On-going  | All pupils have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum |

|  |  |             |   |
|--|--|-------------|---|
|  | Ongoing monitoring from SENCO<br>Liaise with external professions e.g. SALT/OT to incorporate strategies and support within classrooms and around school with children who require specific equipment and adaptations  |             |   |
| All school visits and trips need to be accessible to all pupils  | Risk assessments to ensure that all children including children with physical disabilities can access trips<br>Ensure venues and means of transport are vetted for suitability<br>Ensure staff are fully briefed with regards to children with SEND  | On-going    | 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  | Annually    | All pupils have access to PE and are able to excel, for example via support from an adult         |
| Ensure disabled children can take part equally in whole school events, lunchtime and after school activities | Ensure whole school events can be adapted to include all children<br>Discuss with staff who run out of school clubs, and people running other clubs after school. Support would need to be available – especially after school   | As required | Pupils with disabilities are able to participate in all events and activities                     |
| Ensure all staff have specific training on disability issues   | Identify training needs at regular meetings  | On-going    | Raised staff confidence, including support staff  |
| Communication with parents   | Ensure parents have access to our SEN provision/SEN school offer currently on the school website<br>Ensure parents meet and can contact SENCO at a convenient time to access further support and advice<br>Ensure that the annual report to parents of SEND is accessible and informative for parents. | On-going    | Parent/school communication is strong<br>Parents confidently contact SENCO for support and advice |
| Pupil voice  | Children are given opportunities to share their concerns, their views and their ideas<br>Adaptations are made as needed  | On-going    | Children's voice is heard and acted upon  |