

North Petherton Community Primary School Accessibility Plan



Version 1

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Chair of Governors: Jodie Scarrott

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Introduction

North Petherton Community Primary School is committed to providing a full and broad and balanced curriculum to all children and has high expectations of all the school community as learners. In particular, the Governing Body recognises its responsibility under the Equality Act 2010 which came into force on 1st October 2010 and replaced existing equality legislation including the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). In addition, North Petherton Community Primary School ensures we comply with our duties in the Special Education Needs Disability Regulations 2014. The effect of the law is the same as the previous legislation in that schools 'cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation'.

School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period. They recognise their duty under the Equality Act and Special Educational Needs and Disability regulations:

- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- To publish an Accessibility Plan

Aims

1. We are committed to providing an accessible environment which 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 challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
2. North Petherton Primary School plans, over time, to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
3. An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three year period. The plan will be updated annually.
4. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the all other pupils; This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
 - Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

5. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this first Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each first three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
6. As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on Equality and Diversity. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will contain an item on "having regard to matters relating to Access".
7. The School brochure will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.
8. The School's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
9. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published in the Governors' Annual Report to Parents (statutory).
10. The Plan will be monitored through the Curriculum and the Premises Committees of the Governors.
11. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.
12. We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Priorities for improvements to information for disabled pupils and parents

Targets	Strategies / next steps	Planned impact	Timeframe	Reviewed annually
To improve signage around the school to ensure there are clear directions and signage (multiple entrances, large site)	Review of site Consider accessibility and inclusion Speak with signage company Consider braille?	Accessibility for all	September 2026	
To ensure all information given to parents is accessible	-Information is concise & easy to read i.e. in 'simple' English. It is written in clear print. -Font is enlarged if needed, background colours used if requested	Accessibility for all	Ongoing	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Consideration given to different languages -Look at website and improve -Promote availability of different formats 			
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Priorities for increasing access to the curriculum

Targets	Strategies / next steps	Planned impact	Timeframe	Reviewed annually
To provide increased opportunities for involvement in extra curricular activities, trips, including residential trips.	All staff to speak with SENDCo about provision and “reasonable adjustments” which can be made to ensure all children able to attend trips / clubs as much as possible.	All children, regardless of SEND are able to attend trips / clubs as much as possible	Risk assessments for trips to be discussed with parents 2 weeks before. Ongoing – updated according to need and provision offered	
To ensure the Y6 residential trip is accessible to all children including those in a wheelchair.	Liaise with Barton Hall Speak with relevant parents about arrangements Look at different sites and access for wheelchairs.	Child with wheelchair able to attend	Sept/Oct 2026 – Next residential trip	
To ensure No Outsiders is fully embedded across the school to take into account disabilities	Weekly assemblies Newsletter Displays No Outsiders written into policies and part of ‘school language’	All children and parents feel included and are respectful of those with disabilities	Ongoing	
To ensure all children have full access to the curriculum.	Monitoring of provision in classrooms. Teachers will be planning for ALL levels of ability; ensuring curriculum is differentiated for ALL children.	All pupils make expected progress. Pupil Premium group is at least in line with national expectations. Teachers will be planning	Ongoing	

		for ALL levels of ability; ensuring curriculum is differentiated for ALL children. TAs directed appropriately.		
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Priorities for improvements to the physical environment

Targets	Strategies / next steps	Planned impact	Timeframe	Reviewed annually
To continue to develop contingency plans for accommodating any disabled pupils or staff that may join the school in the future	Fix the wheelchair door access button to the hall	Greater inclusion for all Parents/Carers and children in wheel chairs are able to open the door with independence	ASAP	
To improve the condition of the disabled toilet (school hall)	-Clear so not used as storage -Paint and decorate	Clean, welcoming and accessible for all.	December 2026	
To create a Nurture space for children in nurture group to use.	Paint Nurture room Strip equipment Quote for flooring Consider use of teaching kitchen SIP form Visit other spaces	A safe environment for children to engage with their senses. A safe space for children for calming purposes.	September 2026 (depending on kitchen or not)	
Building projects to create better accessibility for all – children, staff and families.	Consider accessibility on Mendip side in future. Ramp to Year 6 classrooms put into place	Children can be in a year 6 classroom next year, child in a wheelchair can feel included and use same entrances	July 2026	