



## Accessibility Plan 2015–2018

Date of Last review	January 2016	Review Period	1 Year
Date of last review	January 2017	Owner	Business Manager
Type of policy	Statutory	LGB or Board Approval:	LGB

Collaboration Opportunity Respect Excellence

## Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Equality Act 2010. It draws on the guidance set out in 'Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils', issued by DFES in July 2002.

Rockwood Academy buildings are designed to meet the needs of disabled pupils wherever possible and plans are in place to address the need for outstanding access and personal care facilities to ensure that a child starting at the academy will have their SEND needs met where appropriate, straight through until they leave in year 11, to ensure that:

- Use of these classrooms may be rotated to meet pupils' needs;
- All public access rooms, including front and back entrance, toilets, library and hall are on the ground floor, with no steps where possible;
- A disabled toilet has been installed.

## Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):

'A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities'.

## Key Objective

To ensure that REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS are made in order to reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to achieve full participation in the school community for pupils, prospective pupils and our adult users with a disability.

## Principles

1. Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aim and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN Policy
2. The school recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA):
  - Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services.
  - 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.
1. In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (200) and the EQUALITY ACT 2010.

2. The School recognises and values parents/carers' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents/carers' and child's right to confidentiality.
3. The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 Framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
  - Setting suitable learning challenges
  - Responding to pupil's diverse learning needs
  - Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual and groups of pupils.

### Activity

Rockwood Academy has identified the following points for action as part of its ongoing improvement, in order to achieve the key objectives.

#### a.) Delivery of the curriculum

School practitioners receive ongoing training in making the curriculum accessible to all pupils and are aware of its importance,

The school will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA Services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.

#### b.) Physical Environment

The academy will take account of the needs of pupils and other users with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

#### c.) Provision of information in other formats

The academy is aware of local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

### Linked Policies

This plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies eg

- School improvement plan
- SEN Policy
- Equal Opportunities policy