

Accessibility Policy

ISP Whitstable



Approved by: Local Governing Body

Date: July 2024

Last reviewed on: July 2024

Next review due by: July 2025

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Policy

Contents

1. Aims	3
2. Legislation and guidance	3
3. Action plan	5
4. Monitoring arrangements	10
5. Links with other policies	10

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Policy

1. Aims

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.

Polar Restart is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum and school site access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents, foster parents and visitors regardless of their educational, physical, sensory, social and cultural needs. We will take positive action with regard to disability and in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 aim to develop a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the School. Our Accessibility plan will show how we aim to make reasonable and timely adjustments to accommodate needs where practicable

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 understand equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

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, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including staff and the local governing body.

2. 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 he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Policy

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 and school staff with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil or member of the staff team faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises availability to use certain medical room facilities or toilets.

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Plan

3. 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
To ensure that all pupils and staff are adequately and appropriately resourced in order to complete expected work tasks	We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.	Resources from different paper colour, sizes, pens, writing slopes coloured overlays, screen protectors, lap weights, appropriate seating, computer software to be accessible to pupils according to their individual EHC plans	Audit of individual provision plans for pupils/ staff and health plans	Class Teachers	July 2025	Adequate resources are in place
To support differentiation in specific lessons for pupils with physical or	The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils and adapted where a	Access to relevant education lessons is planned and consideration given to those pupils with	Review of Health Care and medication plans with reference to specific lessons	SENCo/Leadership team	July 2025	Pupils/ staff are accessing appropriate resources as needed on a daily basis

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Plan

sensory issue	pupil with a specific medical or physical need has to be withdrawn from certain activities	a known disability				
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Aim	Current good practice	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment for all pupils, Staff and visitors to the school premise	<p>The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils. Staff and visitors as required.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramps • Disabled parking bays • Disabled toilets 	The school is compliant with SEND disability regulations and the 2010 Equality Act	<p>Classroom audit of access points, movement flow to be undertaken</p> <p>Whole school site audit of accessibility in terms of visual signage/ markers for handrails/ fixtures and fittings disabled parking bays and toilet facilities/ with regard to of ease of</p>	<p>All Staff –with Class /Subject tutor responsible for leading audit of their teaching base</p> <p>Property Manager allocate and resource environmental adaptations</p> <p>With support</p>	July 2025	<p>Classrooms are safe, with good signage, visual prompts and clear exits marked and free flowing pathways in the classroom clear of hazard</p> <p>No ramp access is required due to Polar Restart being on the ground floor. A ramp will be required for the step up in the lobby by the</p>

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Plan

			comprehension of signage and ease of escape/evacuation routes to be assessed	from SALT team in reference to communication via signs		entrance as and when required.
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Aim	Current good practice	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Recognition of cultural and religious diversity	The School will offer a prayer room for pupils, Staff and visitors requesting need of one for individual worship		Consideration to and information gained re individual's preference and requirements in terms of their daily worship		July 2025	Cultural and religious diversity is acknowledged and celebrated
Improve the delivery of information to pupils/ parents/ staff/ visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pictorial or symbolic representations 	Visual information is recorded in a user-friendly way	Prepare information sheets in varied formats to cover diverse needs in understanding	All staff	July 2025	School sites are communication and sensory friendly

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Plan

with a disability			safety information			
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4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every **3** years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by the Local Governing Body.

5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Plan

Issue Number	Review date
1	January 2021
2	July 2021
3	July 2022
4	November 2022
5	July 2023
6	July 2024
7	

ISP Whitstable

Accessibility Plan