



## KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL, SOUTHAMPTON

### Accessibility Plan

<b>Rationale:</b>	King Edward VI School acknowledges its duty towards both pupils, staff, parents, Governors and members of the wider community who have a disability. Refer to the Schools Inclusion Policy (accessible on the School website) for more details. King Edward VI School acknowledges its non-discrimination and planning duty under the <b>Equality Act 2010, part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014</b> (and associated regulations) and <b>SEND Code of Practice 2014</b> .
<b>Owner:</b>	Deputy Head (Academic)
<b>Endorsed by Governing Board:</b>	June 2021
<b>Revised:</b>	November 2020
<b>Date of next full review:</b>	November 2023
<b>Reviewed:</b>	3 Yearly
<b>Date(s) of interim amendments:</b>	June 21 Next due October 21
<b>Category:</b>	Statutory
<b>Circulation and publication:</b>	Public/ Website

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## AIMS OF THE ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

The Accessibility Plan aims to:

1. Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school's curriculum,
2. Improve the physical environment of the school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education and benefits, facilities or services provided or offered by the school, and
3. Improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled.

It recognises that:

1. King Edward VI School is a selective school and admission to the school depends upon the prospective pupil meeting the criteria set out in the Admissions Policy (accessible on the School website).
2. Co-curricular activities are a central part of King Edward VI School philosophy.
3. The school asks parents to complete the Registration Form and to disclose whether their child has a disability, special educational need or medical condition. The parents will then receive a disability form in respect of a prospective pupil requesting further detailed information about their child.
4. In assessing any pupil or prospective pupil the school may take such advice and require such assessments, as it deems appropriate.
5. The School will advise parents of the reasonable adjustments the School can make based upon the information given and advice received, to enable a prospective pupil to take up a place at King Edward VI School and to satisfy the admissions criteria. The school is committed to providing those reasonable adjustments agreed in consultation with parents.
6. Where the school agrees to provide additional services, such as the use of support staff in the classroom, parents will be charged for this service at a level that reasonably reflects the cost to the school of providing that service. Details of costs will be provided in writing.

## BACKGROUND TO THE ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

The School's layout and facilities

1. The school transferred to its present site in 1938 as a single site purpose built all boys school. It admitted girls in 1983, first in the sixth form and from first form level from 1994.
2. The school has expanded and there is a continuous modernisation and building programme. The classrooms are situated around three main areas:
  - (a) **The Main Building** which includes a new sports complex and Sixth Form Concourse (comprising two theatres, Sixth Form student areas and a Dance studio) and all rooms on the first and second floor are accessible by lift. Note Rooms H14 and 15 on the third floor have no lift access. A portable Hearing Loop system is available on request in advance for use in performance spaces. Evacuation chairs are available in the main building.

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- (b) **The Science and Technology Faculty** is set on two storeys with the first floor accessible to wheelchair users via a lift situated in the entrance foyer of the DT building. Evacuation chairs are provided in Science and DT. All doors in the Science Faculty have full length vision panels to cater for the shorter pupil and visitor. All doors in this refurbishment have 900mm access doors to cater for easier wheelchair access. Clearer visibility demarcation between floor coverings and doorways has been introduced by lighter and darker shades.
  - (c) **The Design and Technology Area and Sports Pavilion.** The DT department has three storeys, only two of which are accessible to pupils. The third floor is out of bounds to pupils and has restricted access to staff. Access to the first floor is via a lift and stairs in the entrance foyer.
  - (d) **Wellington Sports Ground.** There are in addition 34 acres of sports facilities, which are reached by vehicle at the Wellington Sports Ground, Stoneham Lane. A Hospitality space is available on the first floor but this has no wheelchair access. There is wheelchair access everywhere else and a disabled toilet on the ground floor.
  - (e) **Lovaton.** This is the School's rural study centre on Dartmoor which is reached by vehicular transport. There is wheelchair access to the cottage and refectory.
3. The games fields are split with an all-weather pitch and large grassed area reached by a level area from the main school building.
  4. The school has 6 disabled toilets well displaced across the school site with one of these being accessed externally.
  5. Visual differentiation of classrooms and corridors is included as part of the annual maintenance redecoration programme.
  6. Visible fire alarms (flashing beacons) are now installed to augment the audible alarms in the newly refurbished science faculty.

## Projected Improvements 2020 to 2023

King Edward VI School is not required to provide auxiliary aids and services or to make physical alterations to their existing buildings. While acknowledging the School's duty to its disabled pupils and prospective pupils, a pupil with restricted mobility is likely to be put at a disadvantage by these problems. A pupil with severely restricted mobility may be unable to access some or all of the educational and recreational facilities that the school offers.

Wherever practicable, in line with the Curriculum Support (SEND) Policy the School will make reasonable adjustments to the timetable to allow children with restricted mobility to attend accessible parts of the school

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Proposed Action	Timeline	Evaluation
<b>General</b>		
The King Edward VI School Revised Accessibility Plan covers the period November 2020 to October 2023		
1. The school will review this plan on an annual basis to monitor and evaluate:		
1.1 The effectiveness of action taken in the previous school year	Yearly	Reviewed whilst rewriting this plan November 2020.
1.2 Relevant targets for the next year	Yearly	To be set in Autumn each year through the SEND committee.
1.3 Responses to any further legislative changes	When required	Reviewed June 2014 in the light of the new Code of Practice and again April 2015.
1.4 The school maintains a log of all reasonable adjustments and it will be available to all interested parties	When required	SENDA diary in place in Curriculum support.
<b>School Policies</b>		
All School policies are written paying due regard to the <b>Equality Act 2010</b> and this accessibility plan but the following ones were deemed to be of particular note for this plan:		
1. Admissions Policy	Reviewed every three years and then approved by Governors	
2. Anti-bullying Policy	Reviewed annually and then approved by Governors in February	
3. Curriculum Policy	Reviewed every three years and then approved by Governors	
4. Curriculum Support (SEND) Policy	When required but at least annually and approved by Governors every November	
5. Eating Distress and Eating Disorders	Reviewed every three years and then approved by Governors	
6. Fire Safety Policy	Reviewed annually and then approved by Governors in the summer	
7. First Aid Policy	Reviewed every three years and then approved by Governors. Annually by the School's H&S committee.	
8. Health and Safety Policy	Reviewed annually and then approved by Governors in the summer including the Full Governors committee.	
9. Inclusion Policy	Reviewed annually and then approved by Governors in February	
10. Self-harm Policy	Reviewed every three years and then approved by Governors	
11. Trips and Visits Policy	Reviewed annually and then approved by Governors in November.	
12. Mental Health Policy	Reviewed every three years and then approved by Governors.	

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INCREASING THE EXTENT TO WHICH DISABLED PUPILS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM		
1) The school will develop a unified SEND Policy throughout all its sections, to include:		
Full disclosure of relevant information between all Schools at pupil transfer	Annually June, or ad hoc for midyear transfers	All information acquired through the Registrar. Information on pupils leaving sent by Heads of Section and SENCo in compliance with GDPR
2) a) Training will be provided, when appropriate, for staff to support any pupil with SEND and access to specialist help from health professionals and other outside agencies will be made available where reasonable and practicable.	Annually September and when required	Regular updates in staff INSET and Staff meetings. Recent examples include - Whole staff INSET – October 2018. Twilight training courses offered in September 2019
b) Specific training for staff in advance of likely entry of pupil with severe visual impairment	Before pupil joins in Sep. 2023, and then regularly afterwards once on-roll	Training by Curriculum Support, county advisors, staff from previous setting, and other specialist to teaching staff.
3) Where physical access to the site is difficult for a pupil, the school recognises the need to be proactive in enabling such access. Accordingly pupils with relevant disabilities will, where practicable, be:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Placed in a tutor group that is most convenient for physical access</li> <li>(b) Contrast strips on stairs</li> <li>(c) COMPLETED Coloured walkways on corridor floors</li> <li>(d) COMPLETED Computer rooms lighting levels currently 210 lux and should be 350 lux.</li> <li>(e) Covers on outdoor handrails</li> <li>(f) Nosings replaced on outdoor staircase to Biology</li> <li>(g) COMPLETED Tactile lift buttons</li> <li>(h) Replace carpets and nosings on Atrium staircases</li> <li>(i) Contrast tables needed in Dining Room</li> <li>(j) COMPLETED Replacement entrance doors at Crush Hall entrances</li> </ul>	With likely arrival of a pupil with severe visual impairments, these adjustments need to be in place before September 2023	No specific case currently although mid-year adjustments can be put in place due to medical reasons (through HoY).  However, high probability of a pupil with severe visual impairment starting the school in September 2023

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<p>(k) COMPLETED Contrast colours painted on corridor skirting boards</p> <p>(l) Replace nosings at Atrium entrances.</p> <p>(m) COMPLETED Grey skirting needed in corridor between the Atrium and Sports department.</p> <p>(n) Twigg Studio lack of lighting will pose barriers to students with severe visual impairment</p> <p>(o) 5 disabled toilets are all accessible</p>		
<p>(p) Prioritised in the writing of the timetable with regard to accessible rooms and set allocations</p>	<p>Annually June and when required</p>	<p>No requirement but Deputy Head (Academic) to arrange if need arises.</p>
<p>4) Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs) will be put in place by the School nurses for individuals as and when the need arises.</p>	<p>Annually June and when required</p>	
<p>5) Public Service Vehicle Accessibility regulations change in July 2021. School run busses (not for sports, trips etc.) should be wheelchair accessible.</p>	<p>July 2021</p>	<p>Although this is ultimately the responsibility of the bus contractors, provision needs to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) On an ad-hoc basis provide a bespoke transport solution for the pupil involved</li> <li>b) For long term cases, investigate how to assist contractors facilitate this requirement.</li> </ul>
<p>6) Currently there is no specific provision / room / area that can be used as a semi-supervised 'quiet area' for pupils requiring 'time-out' space</p>	<p>October 2021</p>	<p>The Well Being Centre and relocation of Curriculum Support has been designed and work to begin shortly on this (ready for completion in October 2021) - this will include space for this purpose. In the interim, continued use of facilities in Curriculum Support.</p>
<p>7) Significant likelihood of a pupil with severe visual impairment joining Year 9 in September 2023 with EHCP.</p>	<p>June 2023</p>	<p>Review and consultation as to how to best access the curriculum in line with EHCP recommendations, and any reasonable adjustments that need to be made to the curriculum.</p>

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<b>IMPROVING THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE SCHOOL</b>		
1. The School will biennially (or when required) undertake a fire safety risk assessment completed by the Director of Operations.	Next due August 2021	Last undertaken in February 2019
2. The School will review its fire evacuation plan annually completed by the Director of Operations.	These are reviewed after every planned evacuation.	In place (Head of Operations). Review after each evacuation.
3. The School will aim to make newly constructed buildings, such proposed refurbishments of the Sixth Form Centre, School Gym, relocation of the Dance Studio, refurbishment of the pupil Changing Rooms, and Biology laboratories (expected 2023), fully accessible to disabled pupils and visitors	When required	Library refurbishment 2019. Well Being Centre and relocated Curriculum Support 2021
4. All new equipment purchased for teaching will be considered as to the suitability of its use by pupils with disabilities, and every reasonable effort made to purchase equipment that meets the needs of such pupils in a better way than the existing equipment it replaces.	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	
5. Ensure safety of mature trees on Hill Lane boundary	June 2021	COMPLETED
6. Improve access to internal courtyards	August 2021	Provide non-slip contrasting nosings
<b>IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF INFORMATION TO DISABLED PROSPECTIVE AND CURRENT PUPILS AND PARENTS</b>		
1. The School shall arrange for all relevant documents to be provided to parents of prospective pupils who have a disability, in forms that meet that need, if so requested and it is reasonable to do so.	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	Letter sent to parents of new pupils in June by the Registrars' PA in consultation with the Deputy Head (Academic) and SENCo.
2. The School shall continue to provide INSET for all teachers in order to support them in better communication with pupils with SEND	Annually in Autumn term staff meeting and as part of the three year January cycle INSET. Twilight INSET at various times annually	Whole staff INSET – October 2016, January 2017, and October 2018. Twilight training courses offered in September 2017, September 2018, September 2019
3. The School will plan to invest in classroom technology to better		

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facilitate communication to pupils with SEN and disabilities over the next three years, specifically to enable:		
(a) Clear provision of images and text in a large print format or through the use of iPads.	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	All pupils 1-5 Year now with iPads.
(b) The use of high quality ICT material	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	Materials available but no specific need.
(c) Access to printed hand outs of appropriate clarity	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	In place through discussions between SENCo and subject staff (including for examination purposes).
4. Where KES strives to provide an inclusive environment, we are not always able to provide for co-curricular events. In these instances parents will be asked to express their requirements to the staff member hosting the event prior to it taking place.	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	
5. Parents who have a disability and who are attending parents' evenings will be asked by the Head to advise the relevant Head of Year whether they have any specific needs regarding their disability. Note: Currently all Parents' Evenings are being held remotely, and therefore no disability access issue.	Annually when required	In place through a HoY letter.
6. Disability and access discussed at major events outside school, for example Romsey Abbey, Winchester Cathedral, etc.	Annually June 2020, 2021 and when required	Letter sent by staff organising event in advance to parents.