

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

RATIONALE

Westwood High is accessible to all. It is a place where disabled learners and staff should not feel disadvantaged.

This policy seeks to set out the manner in which we will:

- Treat disabled learners and staff equally
- Make reasonable adjustments to avoid putting disabled pupils and staff at a substantial disadvantage

How we will achieve these aims:

When prospective students or staff apply to the school, we will make reasonable enquiries to find out whether applicants have a disability. Westwood High will make all reasonable adjustments necessary to enable full accessibility to disabled people.

The duty not to discriminate covers all aspects of school life, including extra-curricular activities, educational visits and school trips. The duty to make reasonable adjustments refers to the full range of policies, procedures and practices of the school.

DEFINITION OF DISABILITY

The Disability Discriminatory Act (DDA) states that ‘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.’

The School Accessibility Policy encompasses the following:

- Accessing Learning Spaces
- Accessing the Curriculum
- Accessing Information

ACCESSING LEARNING SPACES

It is important to make all learning spaces within easy reach for learners or staff who may have a mobility impairment. The following safeguards have been put in place to allow better access:

Ramped Access

The raised floor allows easy wheelchair access to the main entrance. Level access is available in all buildings.

Disabled Toilet

There is an onsite disabled toilet that will allow wheelchairs to manoeuvre at ease.

Disabled parking

A designated disabled parking space is clearly marked in the school car park.

Adjustable seating

Height and lean adjustable seats are available for learners or staff to suit their needs

Evacuation

The school's Fire Safety Policy has clear guidance on evacuating disabled person in the event of a fire.

ACCESSING THE CURRICULUM

Accessibility in ICT

We have invested in large keyboards to help learners who are visually impaired. They also have access to a wide screen monitor. The height adjustable swivel chair will allow learners to adjust the seating position to suit individual needs.

We have laptops and tablets in school for children who cannot access the ICT room on First floor.

Resources

Worksheets will be available in alternative format. Handouts will be printed on larger paper with larger font sizes.

ACCESSING INFORMATION

All communication with parents and the public are available in alternative format. The text on the school website can be enlarged to suit individual needs.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy is monitored by the SLT and will be reviewed annually.

Date approved by Board of Governors	Date of implementation	Date of next review
Sep 2023	Sep 2023	Sep 2024