

# 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 affect 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:

### **Lift**

The School benefits from lift access to the upper floor of Unit 2. There is level access to Unit 1 through the Main Entrance from the front of the building and the student entrance by coming through the car park.

### **Ramped Access**

The raised floor allows easy wheel chair access to the main entrance.

### **Disabled Toilet**

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

### **Disabled parking**

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

### **Evacuation**

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

### **Adjustable seating**

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

## **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 need.

## **Resources**

Worksheets will be available in alternative format. Hand outs 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 need.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

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

<b>Date approved by Board of Governors</b>	<b>Date of implementation</b>	<b>Date of next review</b>
<b>1 Sep 2018</b>	<b>1 Sep 2018</b>	<b>Sep 2021</b>