

Polruan Academy Accessibility Plan 2016-2017

Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this plan is to show how Polruan Academy intends, over time, to increase accessibility to the physical environment, the curriculum and written information so that all pupils/students with a disability can take full advantage of their education and associated opportunities.

Definition of disability

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 Aims

To increase and eventually ensure for pupils/students with a disability that they have:

- total access to the school environment, curriculum and information and
- full participation in the school community.

Principles

- Compliance with the Equality Act is consistent with our school's aims and equal opportunities policy and SEN information report.
- Our staff recognise their duty under the Equality Act:
 - 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
- In performing their duties governors have regard to the Equality Act 2010
- Our school
 - recognises and values the young person's knowledge/parents' knowledge of their child's disability
 - recognises the effect their disability has on his/her ability to carry out activities,
 - respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality

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- The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum that is differentiated, personalised and age appropriate.

Increasing Access for disabled pupils to the school curriculum

- At Polruan Academy we want to be certain that all children will have out of school learning experiences, including those with disabilities and/or special educational needs, including social, emotional and mental health needs. As and when trips are planned we wish to be sure that care is taken to find creative, personalised solutions so that all children are included and correct procedures and risk assessments are put into place.
- We also want to make sure that all children have access to any school clubs available to other children of the same age. Where a child with a disability or special educational need wishes to take part in a school club that is available to other children his or her age, careful consideration is taken to find creative, personalised solutions so that they can be included.

Improving access to the physical environment of the school

- We wish to improve the facilities our school provides for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs. We aim to improve our existing 'Thrive' area/Rainbow Room to create a calming, well-equipped environment that can be accessed by all children as needed

Improving the delivery of information to the school community

- We want all parents/carers to have access to information which is normally sent home in written form, including those with dyslexia and/or literacy difficulties. Where appropriate, school staff will be sensitively informed of a parent/carer's needs so that information can be given verbally. Where other needs arise, the school will take advice to ensure that information is shared in an appropriate manner.

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Financial Planning and control

The Headteacher, SLT and the finance committee will review the financial implications of the accessibility plan as part of the normal budget review process.

ACTION PLAN

Compliance with the Equality Act					
Accessibility Outcome	Action to ensure Outcome	Who responsible	Long, medium or short-term	Time Frame	Notes
All staff will be aware of and consider the Equality Act 2010	Email staff the key points and summary and discuss in staff meeting.	SM	Short-term	By 12.5.17	Send email annually and to new members of staff.

Access to the physical environment - statutory					
Accessibility Outcome	Action to ensure Outcome	Who responsible	Long, medium or short-term	Time Frame	Notes
School will have an improved, calming, well-equipped 'Thrive' area/Rainbow Room that can be accessed by all children as needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declutter the current room • Purchase/find relevant equipment • Create some displays that are child-friendly and others which provide useful information for adults 	SM/AW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium • Medium • Medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June • June • July 	Prepare for 2017-18. Begin after SATs.

Ensuring inclusion in the school community					
		Who	Long,	Time	

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Accessibility Outcome	Action to ensure Outcome	responsible	medium or short-term	Frame	Notes
All children will have access to any school clubs available to other children of the same age.	Where a child with a disability or special educational need wishes to take part in a school club that is available to other children his or her age, careful consideration is taken to find creative, personalised solutions so that they can be included.	SS/SM All class teachers	Short, medium and long-term	Ongoing	Termly

Access to the curriculum - statutory

Accessibility Outcome	Action to ensure Outcome	Who responsible	Long, medium or short-term	Time Frame	Notes
All children will have out of school learning experiences, including those with social, emotional and mental health needs	As and when trips are planned, careful consideration is taken to find creative, personalised solutions so that all children are included and correct procedures and risk assessments are put into place.	SS/SM All class teachers	Short, medium and long-term	Ongoing	Termly

Access to information advice and guidance - statutory

Accessibility Outcome	Action to ensure Outcome	Who responsible	Long, medium or short-term	Time Frame	Notes
All parents/carers will have access to information which is normally sent home in written form.	Where appropriate, school staff to be sensitively informed of a parent/carer's needs so that information can be given verbally.	SS/SM All class teachers	Short-term	Immediate	Ongoing

Plan to be updated May 2018