
Accessibility Plan

March 2024

Pardes House Primary
School

Headteacher: Rabbi J Sager

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Mission Statement and Ethos

Pardes House Primary School is committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility, and to further developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

Our aim is not only for the physical environment to be accessible to all, but also for every pupil to have access to all aspects of our Curriculum and to improve the delivery of information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities.

We seek to serve the local and wider community by offering children a caring and educationally rich learning environment in which to flourish as individuals and become increasingly valuable members of society.

Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA).

It draws on the guidance set out in "Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils", issued by DfES in July 2002.

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):

"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."

Part 1 para 2 includes persons with past disabilities to be included

" 2. - (1) The provisions of this Part and Parts II and III apply in relation to a person who has had a disability as they apply in relation to a person who has that disability."

Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

Principles

Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN policy;

The school recognizes its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA):

- 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 and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (2002). The school recognizes and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his abilities to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.

The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum.

Differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum: setting suitable learning challenges: responding to pupils` diverse learning needs; overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

Activity

Education & related activities

The school will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals.

Physical environment

The school will take account of the needs of pupils and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings. To that end, an internal lift was installed during the school's renovations in 2015 and the school owns a ramp for wheelchair access to the building. The same considerations were taken into account regarding the rest of the building during the aforementioned renovations.

Provision of information

The school will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- School Improvement Plan
- SEND policy
- Equal Opportunities policy
- Curriculum policies.