



Accessibility Plan

2022-2025

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 students", issued by DCFS 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."

Key Objective

To reduce and, where possible, eliminate barriers to accessing the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for students, and prospective students, with a disability.

Challenges

South Kirkby Academy is a prefabricated building that was constructed in 1968. The staffroom extension was then added in 2018. The main entrance and rear entrance are both suitable for wheelchair access. As are the cloakroom areas. Each cloakroom has two external doors. One of which has a ramp. However, the new staffroom fire exit currently does not have a ramp.

There is a single disabled toilet located on the back corridor leading out to the rear playground. This does not contain a changing lift.

There are two classes per year group, each sharing toilet facilities and cloakrooms. There are no steps in these toilet areas.

Principles

Compliance with the DDA is consistent with South Kirkby Academy's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of South Kirkby Academy's SEN policy. Our School recognises its duty under the DDA :

- not to discriminate against disabled students in their admissions and exclusions, and
- provision of education and associated services
- not to treat disabled students less favourably
- to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled students 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). South Kirkby Academy recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.

South Kirkby Academy provides all students with a broad and balanced curriculum, adjusted and personalised where needed to meet the needs of individual students and remove barriers to learning. The full nation curriculum is made available to all students regardless of disadvantage or disability. To achieve this we will:

- set suitable learning challenges, personalising when necessary.

- respond to students' diverse learning needs providing additional support when appropriate while encouraging the development of independent skills.
- take steps to overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of students.

Activity

a) Education & related activities

South Kirkby Academy 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 from the local NHS Trusts.

b) Physical environment

South Kirkby Academy will take account of the needs of students and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishment of the site and premises. Whenever possible adaptations and improvements will be made to the schools facilities to meet the needs of students and ensure that they can fully access the curriculum. Reviews of facilities will consider the on going access needs of our students and stakeholders, ensuring changes are not made that would compromise the meeting of their needs.

c) Provision of information

South Kirkby Academy 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 Development plan
- Staff development plans
- Premises development plans
- Business Continuity Plan
- SEN policy
- Equalities policy
- Curriculum policies