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Wemms Education  
Centre Accessibility  
Policy 2016 - 2019

*This Accessibility Policy and Plan are drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. The Principal and School Governance Team are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.*

*This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Equal Opportunities policy and, where appropriate, our School Improvement Plan, Behaviour Management, Curriculum Offer and SEN policy.*

1. We are committed to providing an accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their educational, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
2. Wemms Education Centre School plans, over time, to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
3. An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three year period. The plan will be updated annually.
4. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
  - ┘ Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school for pupils, staff, parents and visitors, and provision of physical aids to access education.
  - ┘ Increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as are able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of the Equalities Act 2010). This covers teaching and learning as well as access to the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
  - ┘ Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.
5. The Action Plan for accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of any one Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. A further Audit will be carried out prior to the end of each three-year plan, in order to inform the development of a new Action Plan.

6. As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on Equality and Diversity. The terms of reference for all Governor committees will contain an item on “having regard to matters relating to Access”.

7. This Accessibility Policy and its associated plan will be published on the school’s website.

8. The school’s complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.

9. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published in the Governors’ Annual Report to Parents (statutory).

10. The Accessibility Policy and associated Accessibility Plan will be approved by the Principal and Governance Team It will be monitored by The Independent Assessment of an Ofsted experienced ,Independent Educational Consultant on an annual basis.

11. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.

12. We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter. This will form part of each Accessibility Plan.