

Date April 2007  
Review Date April 2010

## **Ringshall School**

### **Accessibility Policy and Plan**

#### **Aim**

To make the school building, curriculum and grounds accessible to all.

#### **Objectives**

- ✓ To allow disabled pupils or prospective pupils to have increased participation in the school curriculum and extra-curricular activities
- ✓ To gradually modify the existing building and grounds so that they are accessible to all
- ✓ To ensure written information is accessible by those who need it
- ✓ To comply with Disability legislation

From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004 it has been unlawful to discriminate against people with disabilities by preventing them from having access to premises. Ringshall School is required to make 'reasonable adjustments' to improve access.

Ringshall School has high expectations for all its pupils, whether or not they are disabled in any way, and expects them to participate and achieve in every aspect of school life.

Ringshall School makes all children and adults feel welcome irrespective of race, colour, religion or disability.

The Accessibility Plan details the changes to our buildings and other aspects of school life that have taken place, or are required, in order to comply with legal requirements and remove barriers to inclusion for staff, visitors and pupils.

The buildings of Ringshall School are all located at ground floor level. During the past few years extensive building works have been carried out in order to provide extra classrooms. Building works included the provision of a disabled accessible toilet and shower and a wheelchair-friendly front door. Staff and Governors are aware that the main pedestrian gate is not particularly suitable for wheelchair access. Both office staff and the Headteacher can see the gate and assist if necessary. Changes to the pedestrian gate access would be made if a wheelchair user regularly needed to access the school. One disabled parking space is provided at the front of the school near the front door.

A Soundfield system has recently been introduced to the hall and two classrooms to improve accessibility to hearing impaired pupils. This will be extended as needed.

#### English as an Additional Language (EAL)

The school makes good use of the Advisory service for EAL, seeking advice when needed. The Adviser has recently trained our senior SEN Teaching Assistant to assess children's needs and plan an appropriate support programme.

Technology - upgrading computers for Special Educational Needs (SEN) use. The senior SEN Teaching Assistant has access to a laptop and relevant software and can use this as a computer with an individual or with an interactive whiteboard in Rowan classroom. Further equipment will be provided as required.

Staff Training- it is our practice to provide appropriate training for staff so they are enabled to meet the needs of all pupils including those with any specific disabilities. It is our practice to always access special support services where these could be helpful to pupils, staff or parents.

Culture and Ethos- Ringshall School's four golden rules are inclusive of everyone in the school community. Everyone within the community supports the school ethos and shows that they value and respect each other.

#### **Relevant Documents:**

Implementing the Disability Discrimination Act in Schools and Early Years Settings (2006)

Disability equality duty; Autistic spectrum disorders and schools (National Autistic Society June 2006)

**Related Policies:** Special Educational Needs (SEN)  
Teaching & Learning  
Equality Policy

Accessibility Plan - Part 1  
 Increasing Access to the School Curriculum

Targets	Strategies/Action	Success criteria	Time Frame	Goals Achieved
Makaton Training for relevant staff	Training to be organised for 1) Nursery staff 2) other school staff	Staff able to use for communication with child/ren as needed	September 2007 Nursery January 2008 other staff	
Raise awareness of disabilities	Introduce as assembly topics	Children are aware of some disabilities and consider the implications for that person and others around them	April 2007 and in yearly assembly plans	
Raise awareness of disabilities	Update and improve resources e.g toys in Foundation Stage		January 2008	
Raise awareness of disabilities	Incorporate in PSHE curriculum		January 2008	
Staff able to meet specific SEN	Continuing Professional Development for staff to meet specific SEN	Relevant members of staff are able to meet specific needs of individuals	As needed	

## Accessibility Plan - Part2

### Improving Access to the Physical Environment/Premises

Targets	Strategies/Action	Success criteria	Time Frame	Goals Achieved
Improve signage	Health & Safety Committee to look at signs needed. School to order & fit	Additional signs in place make life easier for all	Feb 2007  July 2007	
Increase areas covered by Soundfield system	LG to prepare Access Initiative bid to fund 75%	75% Funding granted Installed in further 3 rooms	April 07 (bid) August 07	
Ramps from Foundation Stage external doors	Discuss with Property Adviser	Ramp/s put in place if and when needed	Long term	
Remarking of parking bays			October 2008	
Reduce trip hazards	1.Paint white line for high visibility edging on Nursery steps 2. Attend to uneven paving slabs between two small gates to playground	No trip accidents in these areas	August 2007	

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Accessibility Plan - Part3

Improving Access to Information

Targets	Strategies/Action	Success criteria	Time Frame	Goals Achieved
School Prospectus Various formats	Available in CD and hard copy format	Prospectus available in required format	From December 2006	
Clear/updated information for parents	Re-launch school website	New website	September 2007	
Clear/updated information for parents	Put relevant literature in leaflet holders in school entrance.	Leaflets/info available e.g school term dates, latest newsletter, policies, PFRS minutes, courses for parents, health info etc	Ongoing	

