



ACCESSIBILITY POLICY & PLAN

This document provides a framework on which schools can base their arrangements for Accessibility Plans that are compliant with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

Safeguarding Statement: The school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Equality Statement: We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Date agreed: February 2025

Review date: February 2028

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Approved by: Full Governing Body

1. Introduction

All schools must have an Accessibility Plan. This is required by law - Equality Act 2010.

Accessibility Plans support current and future pupils with a disability.

The Equality Act says that a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Accessibility Plans set out how, over time, a school will:

- a) increase access to the curriculum
- b) improve the physical environment of the school
- c) make information more accessible by providing this in a range of different ways

This is our school Accessibility Plan.

2. Vision and aims

Our aim is for everyone at Bincombe Valley Primary School and Community Nursery to feel part of the school community. We are committed to making our school as accessible as possible. We want our pupils with a disability to:

- be fully included in school life
- actively take part in high quality learning
- thrive and enjoy their learning
- develop the skills to go on and lead fulfilled lives as adults
- be empowered, confident and able to function as independently as possible

We want our pupils with a disability to access all elements of school life. This includes school clubs, activities and trips. We recognise that we may have to do things a little differently to make this happen.

3. Objectives

At Bincombe Valley Primary School and Community Nursery, all staff and governors will be aware of, and working in line with:

- this Accessibility Plan
- the wider disability provisions set out in the Equality Act
- the United Nations Conventions on the rights of:
 - a) the child
 - b) persons with disabilities

Our SEND Governor will champion the needs of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. They will be involved in developing and reviewing this Accessibility Plan.

Our staff will remove disadvantage faced by pupils with a disability by:

- adopting a 'can do' attitude
- having a flexible approach to teaching
- modifying the curriculum and environment

Person-centred systems will be in place to support the inclusion of pupils with a disability.

4. School context

Bincombe Valley Primary School and Community Nursery is a one-and-a-half-form entry school situated in the heart of a housing estate. Due to falling birth rates in the local area we are due to drop to a one-form entry school in September 2025.

The catchment area that the school serves is one of high social deprivation and amongst the lowest social mobility nationally. Littlemoor is on the edge of Weymouth, a coastal town which relies heavily on tourism for a significant part of its income and employment.

The school consistently has high numbers of disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND. In addition to the main school we also have a Specialist Resource Provision (The Hub@Bincombe) which is a 14-place hub for pupils with communication and interaction needs.

The current contextual table is below:

	Male	Female	FSM	PP	Non PP	EAL	SEN	Class / School Action	SEN Support / SA+	EHC Plan / Statement	In Care	Non WBRI	Total Pupils
School	123	128	124	124	127	10	76	0	62	14	3	19	251
Reception	7	15	7	7	15	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	22
Year 1	22	13	25	25	10	0	14	0	12	2	0	0	35
Year 2	16	22	19	19	19	3	13	0	11	2	0	6	38
Year 3	21	12	16	16	17	1	12	0	7	5	1	2	33
Year 4	20	23	19	19	24	3	14	0	10	4	0	5	43
Year 5	16	21	15	15	22	1	11	0	11	0	1	0	37
Year 6	21	22	23	23	20	2	10	0	9	1	1	5	43

In addition, there are a further 43 children in the Nurseries (22 in N1 and 21 in N2).

Our vision at Bincombe Valley Primary School is that all children receive the highest quality education within a stimulating and safe environment where each child is valued; with staff, governors and parents working in partnership to achieve this.

Our intention is that all pupils, irrespective of their background or the challenges they face, achieve their potential through a relentless focus on high quality teaching and learning.

The school's values are represented as the 'Bincombe Bees'; a series of values that the children came up with themselves. They are:

- Be Happy
- Be Respectful
- Be Individual
- Be Determined
- Be Honest
- Be Helpful

The building itself is made up of a main building and several extensions and outbuildings. The original and main part of the school was built in 1961 with extensions being added in the 1980s. There has been some recent refurbishment with new modular classrooms added in 2018, then further refurbishment around the school when the Hub and an additional modular teaching space was added in 2023. A copy of our floorplan is available upon request from the School Office.

5. Pupil data

We ask for information about any disabilities or health conditions in early communications with new parents and carers. We also carefully observe our pupils' progress.

Where our pupils have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan, we use the information within this to ensure that we have a good understanding of their disabilities and how to support them.

Our pupils have the following areas of need:

- Communication and Interaction
- Physical and Sensory
- Social, Emotional and Mental Health
- Cognition and Learning
- Medical

6. Audit

To help us develop our Accessibility Plan, we undertook an environmental audit of Bincombe Valley Primary School and Community Nursery.

This informed targets relating to the following areas:

- increasing access to the curriculum
- physical environment of the school
- making information more accessible

Please refer to the table at the end of this document for specific details.

7. Consultation

In developing our Accessibility Plan, we have consulted with:

- our pupils
- parents and carers
- our SENCO and SEND support staff
- other staff at the school, including the leadership team
- our SEND Governor and wider governing body
- the Local Authority
- relevant specialist services

8. Previous actions

Access to the curriculum

During the period of our previous Accessibility Plan, we improved access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability through the following means:

- Increased awareness of the access needs of individual pupils, parents, carers and visitors to the school in relation to the curriculum
- To deploy Teaching Assistants effectively to support pupils' participation
- All out of school activities are planned to ensure the participation of all
- Every Subject Leader has added a SEND statement of accessibility to their curriculum statements

The physical environment

During the period of our previous Accessibility Plan, we improved the physical environment of the school to increase access for pupils with a disability by:

- Ensuring there are enough fire exits around the school that are suitable for people with a disability
- Children with a disability can move from classrooms to the main school Hall and other specific teaching rooms.

Access to information

During the period of our previous Accessibility Plan, we made information more accessible to pupils with a disability by:

9. Sources of advice and information

Our Accessibility Plan has been written following guidance from the Local Authority and considering the Dorset Local Authority Accessibility Strategy. Additionally, the following sources of advice and information have been used:

- Availability of written materials in alternative formats
- Review learning environment with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with a visual and/or hearing impairment

10. Other policies

Our Accessibility Plan complements and supports our:

- Special educational needs and disability policy and SEN information report
- Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions policy
- Equality information and equality objectives

It can also be read alongside the following school documents:

- Child protection policy
- Curriculum policy
- Staff development policy
- Health and safety policy (including off-site safety)
- Behaviour policy
- School development plan

11. Implementation and monitoring

Our Accessibility Plan shows how we will continue to improve accessibility at Bincombe Valley Primary School and Community Nursery for pupils with a disability (and for staff and visitors to the school) over the next 3 years. It may be used to inform other school planning documents.

We will work in partnership with the Local Authority in implementing the Accessibility Plan. Where necessary, environmental works will be guided by relevant buildings regulations.

Sufficient resources will be allocated to implement this Accessibility Plan.

The Accessibility Plan will be reviewed regularly (and updated if needed). It will be monitored through;

- Regular SEND and Senior Leadership Team Meetings
- Liaison between the SENDCo and the SEND Link Governor
- The Governors' Infrastructure Committee which has a focus on school premise, accessibility and Health and Safety
- Formal review of this policy at Full Governing Body level

This Accessibility Plan runs for 3 years. Once updated, we will advise our parents/ carers of this via our usual communications and on our website.

The Bincombe Valley Primary School and Community Nursery complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.

12. Accessibility Action Plan

The following targets will be reviewed on an annual basis and targets will be added as required.

Increasing access to the curriculum

Outcome 1			
What outcome do we want to achieve?	Purchase additional reading resources which include and promote positive disabled role models and add these to the school library/curriculum maps.		
What actions will we take to achieve this?	Review suggestions from Nexus during staff meetings. Select books. Purchase for library and discuss how to promote their use in lessons.		
How can we tell if this is successful?	Children will readily access books that promote positive disabled role models. Note through discussion and reading quizzes how widely these materials are being accessed.		
When will this work be done?	Spring Term 2025		
Approximate cost	£400		
Responsible person(s)	SENDCo English Lead	Date complete	

Improving the physical environment

Outcome 1			
What outcome do we want to achieve?	Improved visibility of changes in height and direction for outside spaces such as the playgrounds.		
What actions will we take to achieve this?	Undertake an external survey of all areas whereby height or direction change to ascertain where improvements need to be made. For example, contrast colours on external steps.		
How can we tell if this is successful?	Any remedial works deemed necessary during the review are completed.		
When will this work be done?	Spring and Summer 2025		
Approximate cost	£1000		
Responsible person(s)	Site Manager SENDCo Headteacher	Date complete	

Making information more accessible

Outcome 1			
What outcome do we want to achieve?	Undertake SCULPT training with all staff		
What actions will we take to achieve this?	Using the resources available on the Worcester Council website, we will carry out staff meetings to share the need for adhering to the simple guidance on making all published materials easy to read and understand.		
How can we tell if this is successful?	All materials, displays and published work will be easily accessible to all.		
When will this work be done?	Spring and Summer 2025		
Approximate cost	Printing costs only if materials need adaptation.		
Responsible person(s)	SENDCo Headteacher	Date complete	