



# Thinking Schools Academy Trust

## *“Transforming Life Chances”*

### **Accessibility Plan**



This policy was adopted in 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
The policy is to be reviewed in October 2021

## Introduction

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled pupils, under Part 4 of the DDA:

1. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
2. to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
3. to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

This plan sets out the proposals of Holcombe Grammar School to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
- b) improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
- c) improving the delivery to disabled pupils and their parents/carers of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary, and reported on annually. At the end of this document is our action plan showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

## Context

Holcombe Grammar is a selective boys Grammar School with a co-educational sixth form. The school comprises of several buildings ranging in height from one to three stories and occupying a large site.

Holcombe Grammar School is committed to offering an inclusive curriculum to ensure the best possible progress for all of our students whatever their needs or abilities. Not all students with disabilities have special educational needs and not all students with SEN meet the definition for disability. This Accessibility Plan covers all of these students.

If a student qualifies for admission to the school by reason of ability and as a result of the selection test, the school undertakes to facilitate their education at the school. All students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and are encouraged to participate in the life and work of the school to the best of their abilities.

The Accessibility Plan shares objectives with Holcombe's Special Educational Needs and Equality Policies and should be read in conjunction with these documents.

This Accessibility Plan exists to ensure that we fulfil our vision of "Child First" education where every individual is supported to "Aspire and Achieve".

We aim to:

- Identify students with special educational needs and disabilities and ensure that their needs are met
- Ensure that students with special educational needs and disabilities are able to join in with all the activities of the school
- To ensure that all learners make the best possible progress
- To ensure that parents/carers are informed of both their child's special needs and progress and that there is effective communication between parents and school

<b>Physical Access</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Explore potential improvements to physical accessibility of school site, including siting of disabled parking place.	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by SLT. Suggest actions and implement as budget allows	To be identified by Audit	By January 2018	
Ensure Emergency Evacuation arrangements are fit for purpose	All students and adults to be able to evacuate the building safely in an emergency.	Fire escape plan to be reviewed and updated as required and at least annually.	By January 2018 and annually thereafter.	
Ensure adequate provision of disabled toilet facilities.	All students, staff and visitors who require them are able to access disabled toilet facilities.	Provision of disabled toilets accessible from all blocks and provide toilet passes to students requiring them.	Ongoing	
To provide specialist furniture & equipment for identified students and staff in specific areas as required	The needs of all students and staff requiring specialist equipment and/or furniture are met enabling wider access to areas of the school site.	Audit of need and purchasing of equipment and furniture as required. Training of staff and/or students as necessary	By January 2018 and as required thereafter.	
<b>Curriculum Access</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
To provide parents with web-based access to homework tasks and resources for them to support their child.	Parents able to better support their child.	Continued use of Showmyhomework.	Ongoing	
Creation of a broad and balanced curriculum for all.	All students have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum.	All students have access to broad range of accredited courses	July 2018 and annually thereafter	
Ensuring that curriculum provision is differentiated to meet individual need.	All students have a differentiated curriculum that meets their individual needs.	Creation and triannual review of IEPs. Staff training on strategies for SEN provision. Sharing of key strategies. Reviewed by QAs and work scrutinies.	Ongoing	

Facilitate disabled students access to the full range of extra-curricular events and activities.	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by SLT. Suggest actions and implement as budget allows	To be Identified by Audit	January 2018	
<b>Access to Information</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
To look to provide information in alternative formats when necessary	Written material in alternative formats	The school makes itself aware of the services available through external agencies for converting written information into alternative formats. Explore use of translation tool on school webpage. Academy to be aware of parents/carers access needs and provide support when needed.	Ongoing	
To ensure that key information is provided to all key stakeholders in a timely and accessible manner	Information to be distributed in electronic format to facilitate increased access.	Continued use of Parentpay system.	Ongoing	