

Pewsey Vale School



Headteacher: Neil Pritchard

Accessibility Policy (Statutory) P29

Responsibility: Deborah Clarke – Bursar

Next Review: October 2021

- Reviewed by Deborah Clarke September 2020
- Adopted and re-implemented by FinFac Committee 11 September 2020
- Verified by FGB 01 October 2020

Approval Signatories:

FinFac Committee signature: _____ Date: _____

Head Teacher signature _____ Date: _____

Chair of Governors signature _____ Date: _____

Rationale:

The SEN and Disability Act (2001) amended part 4 of the Disability Act (1995) by placing new duties on schools in relation to disabled pupils and prospective students. From September 2002, it has been unlawful to discriminate against disabled students in their admissions and exclusions, education and associated services.

Objectives:

- Not to treat disabled students less favourably
- To make reasonable adjustments to avoid putting disabled students at a substantial disadvantage
- To prepare accessibility plans for increasing over time the accessibility for disabled students

Policy in Practice:

Students falling within the definition of disability will have a range of needs, including mobility impairment, sensory impairment, learning disabilities, mental health conditions, epilepsy, AIDS, asthma and progressive/degenerative conditions such as multiple sclerosis.

The Disability Discriminatory Act (DDA) states that 'a person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long term adverse affect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.'

The Education Act (1996) states that 'children have a special education need if they have a learning difficulty which calls for special education provision to be made for them. Children have a learning difficulty if they:

- Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of children of the same age
- Have a disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for children of the same age in schools within this area
- Are under compulsory school age and fall within the above definitions or would do so if special educational provision was not made for them

Students with a disability must not automatically be considered to have a special educational need.

We recognise the need for Pewsey Vale School to draw up an accessibility plan in line with Government and local government policy. In drawing up this plan we have considered the present situation and future needs under the following headings:

- Physical environment of the school
- The extent to which disabled students can participate in the school curriculum
- The delivery of information to students and parents

The duty not to discriminate covers all aspects of school life, including extra-curricular activities, educational visits and school trips. The duty to make reasonable adjustments refers to the full range of policies, procedures and practices of the school.