

Accessibility Policy

Introduction

Aims and objectives of the policy

- The aim of this plan is to ensure that all students have full access to the curriculum and to the school.
- To ensure that disabled students and staff are not treated less favourably
- To ensure the school makes reasonable adjustments for disabled students and staff.

The Blue Coat School policy regarding Accessibility

- The school is required by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001, to plan for:

1. Increasing access for disabled students to the school curriculum

This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school, such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits.

2. Improving access to the physical environment of the school

This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and the physical aids to access education.

3. Improving the delivery of written information to disabled students, parents and staff

This includes planning to make sure that written information normally provided by school to its students is available to disabled students. Examples include handouts, text books, timetables and information about school events.

Access Plan/The Procedure

1 Increasing access for disabled students to the curriculum

Short Term	Target	Strategy	Timeframe	Staff responsible	Goals achieved	Cost	Completed
	Curriculum for current students with Asperger's Syndrome is in place	SENCO to ensure appropriate training is in place - ongoing	Jan 2011	SENCO and relevant teaching staff	Successful integration of students	School budget	
COMMENTS: The school currently has 3 students with such problems but we need to maintain provision.							
	Student with sight problems can use computers	Introduce text enlargers to 5 computers	N/A at present	Network Manager & SENCO	ICT equipment available to all. SEN computers need replacing		
Medium Term	Curriculum accessible to students with all disabilities: physical, emotional, behavioural	Staff to review curriculum to ensure the learning needs of all students are addressed (eg use of tapes for students with sight problems, size of diagrams etc)	July 2011	Heads of Departments	A curriculum which is accessible to all students	Cost of materials resources	
COMMENTS: Access to magnifying facilities is available when needed							

Long Term	Ensure all school visits are accessible to all	Staff organising visits to complete risk assessment for students with disabilities	For each visit	Trips Organiser with SENCO	Students with disabilities to undertake visits	Cost of inspection visit, hire of specialist equipment and staff training	
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2 Improving access to the physical environment of the school

	Target	Strategy	Timeframe	Staff responsible	Goals achieved	Cost	Completed
Short Term	Improved access to Shirley Hall and Sixth Form Common Room.	Review situation when plans for Shirley Hall finalised as the ramp to be built there could also provide access to Shirley Hall. If not, investigate platform lift	Completed	Blue Coat Foundation	Shirley Hall accessible to all		√
COMMENTS: Continue discussions with Blue Coat Foundation on funding.							
Medium Term	Provision of disabled parking	Space to be identified, markings to be done as outlined in consultant's report	Completed 2007	Site Manager	Suitable, close parking available for disabled staff and visitors	£800	√
Long Term	Induction loops (for hearing aids) to be installed in hall and at reception	Shirley Hall & Reception to be altered appropriately	March 2012	Site Manager	Not yet achieved	£7,000	

3 Improving the delivery of written information

	Target	Strategy	Timeframe	Staff responsible	Goals achieved	Cost	Completed
Short Term	School produced materials to be available in appropriate formats if required	Staff to review materials Collect information about useful sources of help eg how to get materials in Braille or translated if necessary	Jan 2011	Heads of Departments, Heads of Years, Office staff, SENCO, Headteacher	A database of sources of information about how to prepare materials as necessary		
Medium Term	Availability of all documentation in accessible format	Review format of material produced for parents and public eg prospectus, web site, newsletters etc	July 2011	Headteacher and staff as above	Information will be available in appropriate formats		
Long Term	Replacement as needed of textbooks, videos etc to ensure materials are available easily to all	As materials are replaced, staff will aim to buy resources accessible to all, bearing in mind cost	Jan 2012	Heads of Departments	Information will be available in appropriate formats		

Points of note on Monitoring

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored and evaluated and its impact will be reported to the appropriate committee of Governors.