



Newtown C of E Primary School

Accessibility Policy

Ratification Date:	February 2017	Signed:	Miss Emma Lee (ACTING HEADTEACHER) Mrs Janet Cane (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Reviewed	March 2025	Signed:	Mrs Emma Howlett (HEADTEACHER) Mrs Glynis Wright (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Reviewed	March 2026	Signed:	Mrs Emma Howlett (HEADTEACHER) Mrs Glynis Wright (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)
Next review	March 2027		

School Vision

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At Newtown C of E Primary School, our motto is enriched and sustained by our Christian values of **Love, Courage and Friendship**, rooted in the teachings of the Bible. We are guided by the call to *“love one another as I have loved you”* (John 13:34), *“be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go”* (Joshua 1:9), and *“a friend loves at all times”* (Proverbs 17:17).

As a school at the heart of an evolving community, we warmly welcome children and families from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. We are enriched by the unique qualities each child brings and value the talents and perspectives that help us grow together.

We are an aspirational school serving our community. We seek to know, understand and celebrate every child, nurturing their individual strengths and talents. We prepare our children to become confident, responsible global citizens in an ever-changing world, guided by our core values of love, courage and friendship.

Through **Love**, we show kindness, compassion and generosity, building a community where everyone feels safe, welcomed and valued. Through **Courage**, we persevere, meet challenge with confidence, and stand up for what is right with honesty and grace. Through **Friendship**, we grow together — encouraging one another, celebrating each other’s gifts, and looking to the future with hope and aspiration.

We live out these values by:

- Being a caring, welcoming and inclusive Christian community where staff, pupils, parents and governors work together in a safe and supportive environment, inspired by *“Above all, love each other deeply”* (1 Peter 4:8)
- Promoting the welfare and dignity of every child, safeguarding them from harm — including physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying — in accordance with statutory guidance in *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (Department for Education)
- Providing a rich, engaging curriculum that equips children with the knowledge, skills and character to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens, reflecting Christian teachings and British Values
- Building strong, positive partnerships with parents, the church and the wider community, and encouraging participation in local, national and global initiatives
- Fostering our Learning Behaviours of Resilience, Focus, Independence, Self-Regulation, Respect and Boundaries, encouraging children to act with integrity, perseverance and kindness in all they do

At Newtown, we want every child to know they belong, are cherished, and are capable of great things. Through **Love, Courage and Friendship**, we grow minds, shape futures and journey together in hope.

1. Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA). It draws on the guidance set out in 'Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils', issued by DFES in July 2002.

In addition to the needs of the pupils, the school is also committed to providing an accessible environment for disabled staff, parents and other visitors.

2. Guidance

The legislation states:–

The responsible body must prepare: (a) an accessibility plan; and (b) further such plans at such times as may be prescribed.

An accessibility plan is a plan, over a prescribed period; for:

- (a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils and pupils with additional needs can participate in the school's curriculum;
- (b) improving the physical environment of the school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils and pupils with additional needs are able to take advantage of education and associated services provided or offered by the school; and for the purpose of increasing the extent to which others who are disabled can access the school;
- (c) improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled; and for other people who are disabled:
 - (i) within a reasonable time, and
 - (ii) in ways which are determined after taking account of their disabilities and any preferences expressed by them or their parents;
- (d) pupils, parents, carers, staff and other stakeholders will be consulted to determine

The plan, priorities and strategies; particular consideration will be given to the views and needs expressed by the SENCo, pupils, staff, parents, carers and other individuals with specific needs.

3. The Accessibility Plan – see Appendix 1

The plan must have clear objectives and an action plan and timescale for each objective.

During the period to which the plan relates, the responsible body must keep its accessibility plan under review and, if necessary, revise it. It is the duty of the responsible body to implement its accessibility plan.

This policy and the accessibility plan are to be used in conjunction with the school's Single Equality Scheme, which incorporates the Accessibility plan as part of the school's main priorities and objectives.

4. Review

To be monitored and reviewed annually by whole governing body.

For more information please visit Hampshire County Council's Accessibility Plan
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/accessibility>

A1. Ensure that as far as possible, the school curriculum meets the needs of any disabled pupils/pupils with additional needs.

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Review
Increase access to as much of the building as possible	- Seek information on the needs of users and pupils - Ensure all bells and buzzers are accessible from a wheelchair - Explore accessibility that is not yet improved (e.g. hall fire exit) and seek solutions to improve accessibility - Ensure the disabled toilet is clearly signposted	- HT - Site Manager - Governors - School Business Manager	Annual review
Ensure accessibility for visually and hearing impaired pupils Ensure provision is made for disabled children and adults in an emergency evacuation	- Curriculum access – seek guidance from specialist advisors - Create an individual plan for each child - Review plans termly as necessary - Ensure all disabled children and adults who regularly attend/visit the school have an individual emergency evacuation plan - Ensure all individual emergency evacuation plans are kept up to date - Off site visits to be considered as part of individual plan	- Site Manager - SENCO	Review half termly

A2. Ensure that the school environment supports the individual needs of any pupil with a disability/ additional need

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Review
Ensure that	Audit of needs to inform provision needed/changes that need to be made	- HT - Site Manager - School office staff	Review annually

A3. Improve disabled facilities to ensure continued accessibility for disabled persons, ensuring that any refurbishment conforms to accessibility standards.

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Review
Ensure building works conform to guidelines and requirements and improve	- Ensure any new building work meets all disability needs - Ensure any improvements conform to guidelines	- HT - Site Manager - Governors - School Business	Annual review Building work as arises

A4. Improve accessibility of information.

Target	Actions	Responsibility	Review
Ensure accessibility of information sent to parents / carers	- Inform parents that alternative formats of information are available to parents at their request - Newsletter available on school website enabling parents / carers to access an enlarged view - The website is available in a range of languages. Policies can be translated on request.	- HT - SBM	Annual review As need arises
Ensure access to support is signposted	- Identify support needs - Liaise with Hampshire Education Authority for provision of support	- HT - SENCO	Ongoing

