

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

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Grangewood School Accessibility Plan

The DDA placed a duty on all schools and LEAs to plan to increase over time the accessibility of schools for disabled pupils and to implement their plans. From 1 October 2010, the Equality Act replaced most of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). However, the Disability Equality Duty in the DDA continues to apply. Schools are required to produce accessibility plans for their individual schools and LEAs to prepare accessibility strategies. The nature and content of plans will depend on the size of the school and the resources available to the school.

The Equality Act 2010 aims to protect disabled people and prevent disability discrimination. It provides legal rights for disabled people in the areas of:

- employment
- education
- access to goods, services and facilities
- buying and renting land or property
- functions of public bodies, for example the issuing of licences

The Equality Act also provides rights for people not to be directly discriminated against or harassed because they have an association with a disabled person. This can apply to a carer or parent of a disabled person. In addition, people must not be directly discriminated against or harassed because they are wrongly perceived to be disabled.

Schools are under a duty to implement, review and revise their Accessibility Plans regularly.

Although it is a duty to plan, it does not require a separate planning process. Grangewood's Accessibility Plan will incorporate initiatives and processes outlined in the School and Academy Development Plan on an annual basis.

Grangewood School, part of Eden Academy, is in a special position in view of the nature of the children, in that all have special needs which are identified in EHC plans. The school has always planned and delivered the curriculum individually, reflecting a range of special learning, behavioural and physical needs and as such is an extremely inclusive and accessible school.

Schools and LEAs are required to plan for

- Increasing access for disabled pupils to the school curriculum
- Improving access to the physical environment of schools

- Improving the delivery of written information to disabled pupils and parents/carers

We have assessed current accessibility and identified any significant barriers to access or inclusion and have produced a year's action plan addressing the three key areas. This will be updated yearly as the new School and Academy Development Plan is written in the summer/autumn. The plan will be monitored and evaluated via the monitoring and evaluating through RAG ratings, of the development plan, from which the plans, in the main, derive.

The plan needs to be read in conjunction with Grangewood's current Schools and Services Development Plan, the Single Equalities Policy which replaces the Disability Equality Scheme (Eden Academy policy) the Teaching and Learning Policy, the Curriculum policy, the Assessment Policy (academy and local) and the London Borough of Hillingdon's current Disability Equality Scheme and Accessibility Strategy.