

# HOWDEN SCHOOL



## Accessibility Plan

- 1 At Howden School we are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
- 2 We strive to ensure that all our student, parents and visitors are fully catered for in the school. All buildings have entrances which are wheelchair accessible. Students are provided with different coloured worksheets and whiteboard backgrounds as required. We ensure that type size is always accessible. Students with physical disabilities are provided with raised writing areas and special seating as required.
- 3 We assess our school to:-
  - Improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
  - Increase access to the **curriculum** for students with a disability to ensure that they are equally prepared for life as are able bodied peers. This covers teaching and learning and the wider activities of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist **aids and equipment** to assist students accessing the curriculum.
  - Improve the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.
- 4 Attached are our Action Plans, relating to these key aspects of accessibility. These plans will be reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. New plans will be drawn up every three years.

The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:

- Curriculum policies
- Single Equalities Scheme
- Health & Safety
- Special Needs
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- School Vision and Aims
- School Prospectus

- 5 The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is scrutinised by the Health and Safety Committee. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each first three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
- 6 The school's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
- 7 The Plan will be monitored through the Curriculum and the Health and Safety Committees of the Governors.
- 8 The school will work in partnership with the local education authority in developing and implementing this plan.

## Howden School Accessibility Plan 2013-2016

### *Improving the Physical Access*

Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost £
Adapt information as required	Adapt	When required	
Information for staff, visitors	Adapt	By July 2014	
Doors – access for wheel chair users to be unaided	Door openers fitted	As required and funds allow	
Signage to highlight steps and hazards	Tape fitted	By July 2014	

## Howden School Accessibility Plan 2013-2016

### *Improving the Curriculum Access*

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Timeframe	Achievement
On-going training for staff on differentiating the curriculum when need arises for a specific child.	Through diagnosis/testing identify children and ensure staff are suitably trained.	All staff are able to meet the requirements of disabled children's needs with regards to accessing the curriculum	Ongoing	Increase in access to the National Curriculum
All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils	When planning visits staff take into account specific requirements of children and ensure adequate staff/resources are in place	All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements	Ongoing	Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils, where practical and safe.
Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases	Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual pupils	Ongoing	Increase in access to the National Curriculum
Training for Awareness Raising of Disability Issues	Provide training where required	Whole school community aware of issues relating to Access	Ongoing	The community will benefit by a more inclusive school and social environment

**Howden School Accessibility Plan 2013-2016**  
***Improving the Delivery of Written Information***

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Availability of written material in alternative formats. The school already uses different coloured papers/overlays etc for specific children.	The school will make itself aware of the services available through the LA for converting written information into alternative formats.	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes.	2013/14	Delivery of information to students with additional needs improved.
Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats.	Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it. Question on parental questionnaire, identification of group will be required.	All school information available for all.	2013/14	Delivery of school information to parents and the local community improved.