

Accessibility Plan

Rowden House School

Rowden

Bromyard

Herefordshire

HR7 4LS

Accessibility Plan as set out in
SENAD's Accessibility Strategy Policy [710.0]

S88 Requirement

Reviewed January 2022

Update due in January 2025

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SENAD Support: Paul Munyard,
Group Property and Facilities Manager

1.0 Introduction

Rowden House Hall School aims for all pupils to enjoy learning, make progress and achieve. To become confident individuals living safe, healthy and fulfilling lives who make a positive contribution to society. The school's aim is for pupils to:

- Engage in Learning
- Develop communication skills
- Self-manage behaviours
- Form positive relationships
- Be healthy
- Access lifelong learning
- Be prepared for their transition to adulthood

2.0 The Equality Act 2010 - Disability

This plan has been prepared in response to the school's duties under Section 88 of The Equality Act 2010. The school recognises the following duties:

- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions and provision of education and associated services;
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably;
- To publish an Accessibility Plan (known as the Planning Duty).

3.0 Definition of Disability

A disabled person is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act as:

- A person who has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

4.0 The Planning Duty

The Act places a duty (the Planning Duty) on schools to prepare Access Utility Plans for:

- Increasing the extent to which pupils can participate in the school curriculum, e.g. leisure activities and school visits.
- Improving the physical environment of schools to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services.
- Improving the delivery of information, e.g. hand outs, timetables etc.

Independent schools must make their Accessibility Plans available to interested parties on request at reasonable times.

5.0 The Accessibility Plan

This plan aims to improve access to all aspects of education within Rowden House School and is organised in a way that helps to remove any existing barriers to pupil learning. It also aims to widen the opportunities available to pupils who may have had restricted access to the wider community in previous settings. This is our commitment to developing the outcomes within Rowden House School's aims and objectives.

- The SENAD Group will monitor the implementation of the plan and regularly review the access needs of the school.
- **This plan is due for review in January 2025**
- **It will be made available on the school's website.**
- Martin Carter at Rowden House School 01885 488096.

6.0 Improving Access to the Curriculum

	Targets	Strategies	Outcomes	Timeframe	Goals Achieved
Ongoing	Communication – Continue to use augmentative systems for all pupils	Risk assessments and speech and language assessments are in place and form part of multi-disciplinary approach to pupil's needs	There is available in all settings: Functional symbols for personal needs PECS for functional use Adults who are able to sign Timetabled for expressing organisation of day	Ongoing	Pupils have access to communication at functional levels to enable their understanding of all school environments
Ongoing	To provide ongoing training for all staff to promote pupils access to curriculum	Discuss and arrange through performance management	There is increased availability of skilled training and practice	Current – performance management structure in place for all staff and ongoing training programme both formal and during work environment	Pupils will have improved access to skilled staff and systems

7.0 Physical Improvements to the Environment

	Targets	Strategies	Outcomes	Timeframe	Goals Achieved
Short Term	All aspects of the site are accessible for YP/Staff/Visitors with a physical impairment	Designated learning areas/classrooms on ground floor level. Ramps and handrails in place	All areas are accessible	Achieved Summer 2019, with further adaptations as required.	Wheelchair users and those with a physical disability are not discriminated against
Medium Term	Improved building access	Improve/supplement external lighting with more specific LED responsive lighting	Access around site improved	Ongoing when requested and through property overviews.	Improved physical access to the school
Long Term	Improved vertical circulation	Provide colour contrasting nosings on stairs as carpets are replaced through routine maintenance	Improved contrast for visually impaired	Ongoing refurbishment	Improved physical access to the school
	Improved vertical and horizontal circulation	Provide colour contrasts during routine redecoration	Improved contrast for visually impaired	Ongoing refurbishment	Improved physical access to the school
	Carryout light surveys to communal, external and classroom areas	Identify light levels and create action plan ensuring individual needs are reflected	Improve light levels	Ongoing refurbishment	Improve lighting as required

8.0 Improving the Provision of Information

	Targets	Strategies	Outcomes	Timeframe	Goals Achieved
Ongoing	Provision made for visitors to indicate support needs regarding disability provision	Include a request for visitors to contact us prior to a visit highlighting any specific needs that they have	Any additional reasonable arrangements needed are facilitated for the visit		Adapt planning to facilitate any disabled visitor
		Mobile ramp available		As and when required	
		Downstairs office available for meetings if required			