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## Accessibility Policy

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At Swallowfield Lower School we are committed to ensuring we have adequate provision for children with physical disabilities who may attend the school in future. We have a general duty under the Equality Act of 2010. We are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents, staff and governors of the school.

Whilst we cannot predict the individual requirements a child with a particular disability may have we want to ensure we consider the needs of children with physical disabilities when making any changes to the school premises. This policy supports the school's desire to ensure all children attending the school have access to the same facilities and activities where possible and the appropriate levels of teaching support are provided.

Under the Equality Act of 2010 schools must ensure that arrangements and modifications are made in order to provide equality of opportunity for those pupils with disabilities.

The act uses a wide definition of disability and can include people with:

- physical or mobility impairments;
- visual impairments;
- hearing impairments;
- dyslexia;
- medical conditions;
- mental health difficulties.

The act applies to all activities and facilities provided for pupils and is anticipatory. It covers education and associated services and these may include:

- preparation for entry to school;
- the curriculum;
- teaching and learning;
- classroom organisation;
- timetabling;
- grouping of pupils;
- homework;
- access to school facilities;
- activities to supplement the curriculum; for example a drama club;
- school policies;
- breaks and lunch times;
- interaction with peers;

- assessment and test procedures;
- school discipline and sanctions;
- exclusion procedures;
- school clubs and activities;
- school trips;
- school arrangements for working with other agencies;
- preparation of pupils for the next phase of education.

The accessibility plan covers three areas: The physical environment, communications and the curriculum.

### **Physical Environment**

The objective is to ensure the school meets the needs of current pupils and staff and to aim to meet the needs of any new pupils joining who have a disability. The annual action plan assesses the current needs of the school. For any new pupils / parents we will discuss their specific needs and work with them to provide the appropriate access and facilities before they join where possible.

### **Communications**

The school is committed to ensuring communication is available for all pupils in the appropriate format to cater for any disabilities a child may have. We do not currently have any special requirements for our current pupils. For any new pupils, or if the requirements of current pupils change we will identify and plan to meet those needs.

### **Curriculum**

We are committed to providing a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils. We have a good understanding of all our current pupils and any special needs they may have and ensure that they receive appropriate support. We endeavour to make all after school activities accessible and where appropriate and possible would aim to modify activities and support to ensure that all pupils could participate if they wished to.