

Sir James Knott Nursery School



Accessibility Plan

“Creating strong and lasting foundations for learning”

Certified as reviewed and approved by the Governing Body: 10th February 2016

Next review date: 10th February 2019



Accessibility Plan at Sir James Knott Nursery School

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Aims of the Plan

- To create opportunities for every child to develop and learn
- To release potential in people to make the most of themselves
- To achieve excellence in standards of education & skill for all children
- To ensure the building and premises are accessible to all users, including pupils, parents/carers and visitors.
- To link with the Single Equality Scheme Action Plan in order to have due regard to the duties from the Equality Act as follows;
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and
 - Foster good relations between different groups.

Introduction

- This plan is drawn up in accordance with the duties in the Equality Act 2010, 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

Definition of Disability

- Disability is defined by the Equality Act 2010 as:

"A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' negative effect on his or her ability to do normal day to day activities".

Key Objective

- To reduce and eliminate barriers of access to the curriculum, and to enable full participation in the school community for pupils, prospective pupils and our adult users with a disability.

Principles

- Compliance with the Equality Act is consistent with the school's Single Equality Scheme and Action Plan, and the operation of the school's SEN policy;

- The school recognises its duties under the Equality Act (as amended by the SENDA):
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and
 - Foster good relations between different groups.
 - 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 take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
 - to publish an Accessibility Plan.

- In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty written by the Equality & Human Rights Commission.
- In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the Special Educational Needs and Disability regulations 2014.

- The school recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to do normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.

- Schedule 10 (Accessibility for Disabled Pupils) of the Equality Act also requires schools to;
 - Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in school curriculum
 - Improving the physical environment of the schools for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education and benefits, facilities or services, provided or offered by the school,
 - Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils which are not disabled

- The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
 - setting suitable learning challenges
 - responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
 - overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual and groups of pupils.

About our School

Sir James Knott Nursery School was built to educate the children of Knotts Flats in 1937. It is a deceiving building which has been adapted over time in a variety of ways to comply with government regulations and the introduction of a children's centre. Our accessibility requirements were checked in the summer of 2014 and subsequently in 2015 by the LA Health & Safety team.

- The physical accessibility of the site

The school is built on one level and is well designed to meet the needs of pupils and adult users who have mobility problems or physical disabilities:

- all classrooms and other rooms/offices are on the ground floor;
- front and back entrances, toilets, and community room are on the ground floor, there is a ramp from the main garden and two from the main street which enable access to the building;
- a disabled toilet is available.
- a hearing loop is situated in the main reception area

The classrooms have all been developed with particular accessibility features:

- lighting, signage, colour contrast, and floor coverings specifically to the garden ramp
- toilet, washing and changing facilities
- the layout of the playground and woodland area

(Reference: Single Equality Scheme)

Activity

Sir James Knott Nursery School has identified a range of points for development in line with the duties from the Equality Act as follows;

- To consider any disabilities represented within the current cohort of children.
- To raise staff awareness, personal knowledge and skills of the Single Equality Scheme and provide training required in the 9 strands.
- To raise the children's awareness, knowledge and understanding of a range of disabilities and differences amongst their peers.
- To ensure that opportunities are provided in school which ensure equal access to all groups within the community.
- To promote the school to different groups, encouraging under represented groups to become more involved with the school and its work.

(For further detail of what these actions are please see the School's Single Equality Scheme Action Plan)

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- SEN policy
- Single Equality Scheme & Action Plan
- Equality Impact Assessment Template & Guidance
- Equality & Diversity Guidance for schools
- Guidance on Publishing of Equality Data for Schools
- Curriculum policies

Designated Member of Staff:- Mr J. Croft, Headteacher

This policy will be formally reviewed by the Governing Body every three years.