

Wigmore School Accessibility Plan 2023-2026

Section 1: Vision statement

Our whole school ethos is encompassed in our statement “Enjoying Learning Together”. At Wigmore School we strive to be an inclusive learning community.

The [Equality Act](#) came into force on 1st October 2010 and brought together over 100 different pieces of legislation. The Equality Act provides a legal framework to not only protect the rights of all individuals but to progress equality of opportunity for all; it promotes a fair and more equal society and protects individuals from unfair treatment. A key part of this is protection from discrimination, harassment and victimization on the grounds of [protected characteristics](#). These include:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and Civil Partnership
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Race
- Religion and Belief
- Sex
- Sexual Orientation

A person is a disabled person if they have a physical and/or mental impairment which has a ‘*substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities*’. A person does not necessarily have to have a medically diagnosed cause for their impairment; it is the effect of the impairment not the cause.

There is a requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for schools to have an accessibility plan to show strategically how we will increase accessibility over time. The purpose of this plan is to

- increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in our curriculum;
- improve the physical environment of Wigmore School to enable those with disabilities to take better advantage of education, facilities and other benefits provided;
- improve the availability of accessible information to those with disabilities.

This Accessibility Plan links to the following documents:

- Equality Statement
- SEND Information Reports
- SEND Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy

This plan will be available through the School office.

- Internal and external monitoring procedures
The termly Health and Safety monitoring walks enable the Health and Safety Officer to ensure staff and pupils keep the physical environment of the school in a good condition which helps maintain access to all parts of the school in a safe and secure manner.
The school also employs the services of external experts for Fire and Health and Safety. Their expertise and knowledge ensures that rigorous monitoring processes are undertaken which underpin the internal procedures.
- Supporting partnerships to help develop and implement the plan, for example with the local authority, trust or federations

The school works in collaboration with outside agencies including the Local Authority, Health and other Local Authorities (where appropriate), other schools ensuring that all pupils are treated equally and fairly giving them fair access to appropriate facilities for their individual needs.

- **Complaints procedures**

The school has a policy for complaints which is available on the school website or through the School Office. All complaints are dealt with quickly, fully and fairly within clearly defined time limits following the school's procedures and protocols.

Person Responsible	Kate Mayglothling
Last Updated	August 2023
Review Date	August 2026

Section 2: Aims and objectives

Our aims are to:

- Improve access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
- Secure disabled access to the physical environment for pupils, staff, parents and other stakeholders

The table below sets out how the Wigmore School will continue to achieve these aims.

Aim	Current good practice <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with SEND	Supporting pupils with medical needs e.g. Type 1 diabetes.		Medical first aider on site at all times.	EJ	Ongoing
	LA/Advisors support staff training and planning for pupils with SEND e.g. Downs Syndrome		Increased training of medical first aiders	KM/LH	Ongoing
	Provide additional numeracy & literacy support for pupils to ensure they can access curriculum.	Numeracy and literacy timetabled for key pupils		DJ/RW	Ongoing
	First Aid training updated continually. First Aiders on trips and visits		Increased training of medical first aiders	PB	
	Importance of planning First Aid is an integral part of planning process in order for trips to take place.			RP/DJ Trip lead	
	Proactive measures to ensure participation by pupils with disabilities in clubs and trips.		Disability and inclusion considered as part of all trip planning	KM/LH	Ongoing
	Proactive in assessments for Access arrangements for SATs and GCSE exams			RW, KM & TJ	Ongoing
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	All new or remodeled buildings will comply with part M of the Building Regulations.	Ramp from upper to lower levels of main hall		EJ/RP	Ongoing
	Physiotherapy Room available	Access to virtually all classrooms with use of lift		EJ/RP	Ongoing
	Hygiene Room with gantry hoisting available	Accessibility to Maths rooms M1, M2 and M3	Review of costings for works to Maths rooms	EJ/RP	Ongoing

Section 3: Access audit

Access audits are undertaken in accordance with the guidance for Access to the built environment

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of levels	3 levels in main building at High School accessible by all – science and maths corridor not accessible to wheelchair users.	Lift access and handrails on both sides of the stairwells at the High School completed	SBM	Completed
	Hall accessible through outside door	Platform lift installed in High School Hall completed		
	Single story at the Primary School			
Lifts	3 lifts: one in the main school (High), one in the school hall and one in the sports hall (High); N/A for Primary	Lift maintenance under annual contract	SBM	Ongoing
Parking bays	Designated car parking bays for easy access	Hashed lines visible to all	SBM	Ongoing
Entrances	All entrances are either direct or have ramp access	Access to the school is appropriate to all	SBM	Ongoing
Ramps	Ramp access where necessary	Monitoring of school and appropriate ramps in place	SBM	Ongoing
Toilets	Designated accessible toilets including a recently installed clos-o-mat at both primary and high schools	Upgrade and maintain toilets to ensure accessible to all stakeholders	SBM	Ongoing
Reception area	Main reception for visitors and students to the school. All hatches are low level for people in wheel chairs and a shelf as required for part M	Maintain clear accessible area to ensure easy access	SBM	Ongoing
Internal signage	Signage is put in clear print	Signage reviewed and updated where necessary	SBM	Ongoing
Induction loops	Consideration and access to induction loops are available for pupils who have hearing impairments	The school works in liaison with the LA to ensure that provision meets needs of pupils with Hearing Impairment	EJ/RP	Sep 2023
Emergency escape routes	Clearly marked escape routes accessible to all	Monitoring to ensure escape routes are clearly marked and kept free of obstacles	SBM	Ongoing