



Westcliff High School for Boys

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

REVIEWED: Summer 2025

COMMITTEE: TQPC

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: Summer 2026

1. Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty under Schedule 10 of the Equality Act (2010). Westcliff High School for Boys aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind. The plan will be made available online on the School website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Westcliff High School for Boys is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, the complaints procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

1.1 Equality Act Legislation:

1. The responsible body of a school in England and Wales must prepare—
 - (a) an accessibility plan;
 - (b) further such plans at such times as may be prescribed.
2. An accessibility plan is a plan for, over a prescribed period—
 - (a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the School's curriculum,
 - (b) improving the physical environment of the School 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, and
 - (c) improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled.
3. The delivery in sub-paragraph 2(c) must be—
 - (a) within a reasonable time;
 - (b) in ways which are determined after taking account of the pupils' disabilities and any preferences expressed by them or their parents.
4. An accessibility plan must be in writing.
5. The School must keep its accessibility plan under review during the period to which it relates and, if necessary, revise it.
6. The School must implement its accessibility plan.

2. Definition of Disability (Equality Act 2010):

1. 'A person has a disability if:
 - a. They have a physical or mental impairment, and
 - b. the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.'

3. Key Objectives:

1. Maintain and develop access to the curriculum for pupils with a physical disability and/or sensory impairments, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as the able-bodied pupils; this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the School such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or Schools visits. It also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
2. To improve and maintain 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 within a reasonable timeframe;
3. To 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 its events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

4. Principles

Compliance with the Equality Act (2010) is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN policy; ▪

The School recognises its duty under the Equality Act 2010

- Not to discriminate against disabled students in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
- Not to treat disabled students less favourably
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled students at a substantial disadvantage
- To publish an Accessibility Plan
- The School recognises and values parents/carers' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality. (General School Policy and SEND policy);
- The School provides all students with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual students; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum. (Curriculum Policy/School Development Plan/SEND Policy);

- Setting suitable learning challenges
- Responding to students' diverse learning needs
- Consulting with appropriate support agencies and thus reducing potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of students.

5. Activity

This section outlines the main activities which Westcliff High School for Boys undertakes, and is planning to undertake, to achieve the key objectives (above).

1. Increasing the extent to which disabled students can participate in the school curriculum. We see this as covering not only teaching and learning but also the wider curriculum such as school clubs, leisure, sport and cultural activities and school visits.
 - a. Planning for a more inclusive curriculum;
 - b. Changes to teaching and learning arrangements;
 - c. Classroom organisation;
 - d. Deployment of auxiliary aids and personnel;
 - e. Information and training for staff.
2. Improving the physical environment of the school. We see this as attempting to 'increase the extent to which disabled students are able to take advantage of education and associated services'.
 - a. Visual improvement
 - b. Signs
 - c. Improvements in the acoustic environment
 - d. Furniture
 - e. Disabled toilets/showers
 - f. Ramps
 - g. Disabled parking spaces
 - h. Steps
 - i. External hard surfaces
 - j. Fire alarm procedures
 - k. Lighting
 - l. Room access

The School will endeavour to take account of the needs of students and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of site and premises.

3. Provision of Information

The School will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the Local Authority for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested (DfES Guidance 'Accessible Schools')

- a) Modified examination papers

- b) Modified resource and support material
- c) ICT facilities

6. Related policies

This policy is written in conjunction with the following policies:

- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy
- Curriculum Policies
- Fire and Emergency Evacuation Plan
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- Teaching and Learning Policy

7. Objective Action(s)/Strategies

When Success Criteria monitoring, the goal is to increase the extent to which disabled students can participate in the School curriculum

- Regular review of curriculum to ensure full accessibility
- High expectations of all students
- High achievement and attainment
- Introduction of specialist courses for targeted students (where appropriate).
- Individualised timetables
- Classroom organisation (strategies to meet immediate short term needs usually already in place – they have been applied before in similar cases)
- Personalised Learning & Assessment for Learning
- Range of Learning and Teaching strategies facilitated by high-quality ICT
- Deployment of auxiliary aids and personnel (SEND department)
- Students achieve target grades/levels.
- Classrooms optimally organised for disabled students.
- Students working at their own level and achieving their targets grades/levels

The Accessibility Plan

Objective	Action/Strategies	When/by whom	Monitoring evaluation
Increasing the extent to which disabled students can participate in the school curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of curriculum to ensure there is a range of achievable curriculum options available and on offer • Upskilling staff to meet the needs of students with SEND in the classroom through training • Ongoing monitoring of personalised learning in the classroom by ST and SENDCO • Purchase and deployment of auxiliary aids, where needed, following pupil assessment for example, writing slopes, different height tables/chairs, dycem, foot rests • Offering a range of targeted provision, for example occupational therapy or physiotherapy • Provision of practical assistants where need to facilitate access to subjects which require a practical element, such as DT, science • The provision of a hearing loop for students with HI • Ensure ICT has a range of accessibility options, such as being able to change the colour of the background or font size, text to speak 	Ongoing review SENCO Teaching and Learning team HoDs	There has been progress in several areas, particularly staff training. We would usually refer pupils to their GP in order to access occupational therapy and physiotherapy.
Improving the physical environment of the school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of white and yellow painted lines on all outside and some internal steps • Improvements to signage for VI students, • Provision of a slope to access the outside field • Provision of a ramp to access the outside West Quadrangle • Check there are sufficient rise and fall sinks in science and food tech rooms • Ensure lift areas are kept clear 	Facilities Manager Headmaster	There has been progress in a number of areas, such as painted lines and more accessible doors. Further works have been arranged for summer including ramps and further replacement doors. The lift to the Mathematics and Music Building will also be refurbished. The real-term cuts in DfE funding is

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure corridors are clear and fire extinguishers are fastened to the wall • Ensure students keep bags tucked under their desks • Ensure staff/students use a lidded cup when walking between rooms with a hot drink • The provision of an accessible shower for disabled individuals • The provision of a hoist within an accessible toilet • Ensure there is an obvious safe place to cross the road between the main building and the science and Technology blocks, by installing a hashed area 		limiting progress with a number of items.
Improving the accessibility of information for pupils, parents and others with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide modified Examination papers are made available where necessary • Continue to modify resources as required, such as worksheets printed on different colour paper or different sized fonts • ICT is made accessible in order to change the colour of the background or type or size of font • Install visual fire alarms • School website to have an audible option • School Information to be offered in braille or simplified form 	Exams Officer SENCO Site manager Website manager ICT team	Progress has been made in this area. The School will submit a CIF bid for a significant upgrade to our Fire Alarm System in December 2025.