

Title: Whole School Accessibility Plan 2024-27

Status Approved

Approved by Governing Board

Current Author SENCO

Last Updated/Revised December 2024

Frequency of Review Annual

Application Whole school

Responsibility SENCO

Copies of this plan will be available on the School website.

The document outlines our Accessibility Plan as required by the Equality Act 2010.

This Accessibility Plan outlines how we ensure that we are working to remove barriers to learning and access in our school. The plan is reviewed every three years. The school aims to treat all its pupils, staff and visitors fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind. The school ensure all staff are trained in understanding equality and disability issues in line with the Equality Act 2010.

Area of School	Proposals to increase accessibility 2024 - 2027	Action required	Short/Med/Long Term	Evidence of Impact/Outcomes
1. Increasing Participation in the School's Curriculum:	Increased support for pupils with SEND	out and not one-to-one for pupils with an identified laptop need. Ensure all pupils with SEND have an up to date IPP (reviewed annually) which outlines their needs and how they should be supported. Pupils with SEND are given a meeting with the SENCO and access arrangements are discussed with them/their parents prior to assessment for entry to ensure that their abilities can be considered with the relevant adaptations in place and that their needs can be met. Exam timetables will be drawn up with consideration to those	purchased for pupils with the intended roll-out from January 2025. All pupils will have an IPP, under the new format by July 2025. These will then be put onto an annual review cycle. Meetings arranged by Admissions and SENCO involved in feedback to the Headmaster where an analysis of reasonable adjustments will be made, when required. SENCO to work with Deputy Head Curriculum and Examinations Officer to make sure timetables are appropriate for individuals. Exam review instigated (Sept 2024) to take place annually to include review of performance of	
	Increase ability for all pupils to access trips and visits	have consideration of	Current risk assessments check and EVC oversees support for all pupils to attend. Trip leaders to	

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	trip includes having a view of all IPPs for pupils who will be taking part.	review specific needs with SENCo.	
Timetables adapted to accommodate disability	re-room pupils who have temporary access needs or be selective in locations for those	Continue to consider the classroom spaces to address issues of accessibility, including looking at technology used in the classroom which allows pupils to best access lessons.	
Staff training for support of specific pupils' difficulties	informed about particular needs and how to adapt to them. SENCO to present to new	on 'watchlists' and via coding on	
Curriculum is modified as appropriate for those with a required need.	Heads of Sector to identify needs and reasonable adjustments for pupils' curriculum. Some pupils to be guided towards Learning Support due	SEND have additional time in the Year 9 curriculum to be supported in their specific need through the ability to drop a subject. Introduction of focus groups to	

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	Review policies to ensure that they do not discriminate the needs of disabled students, staff or visitors.	Policies are checked regularly.	Further sensitivity needed when revisiting policies in this area – monitoring from Compliance Officer as policies are updated.	
2. Improve the information to disabled pupils	Increase support for pupils identified with hearing impairment.	Staff trained to include text to audio materials. Ensure that videos include subtitles, as routine and provide visual cues.		
			specialist hearing support from LA delivered to staff in Oct 2024.	
	Increase accessibility for pupils identified with a visual impairment.	Larger font size included in presentations, Staff trained to make presentation more easily visible (e.g. use bold colours, not pastels), presentations stored centrally for later access. Consider the impact of lighting and visual strain.	staff from BANES VI unit.	
	Increase accessibility for pupils identified with a visual impairment.		Specialist staff have been employed to support a pupil with a visual need. Flexibility of device purchase is used to best fit the needs of staff/pupils with these needs.	
	Widen appropriate use of AI models (such as copilot) to support those with a disability.			

	Information sharing for all pupils	for giving information (including homework and notices). Ensure that pupils with	Sixth Form – use Teams in the same way.	
3. Improve the Physical Environment	sites to ensure seamless and unrestricted movement between	to undertake a site wide survey to create a masterplan assessing mobility restrictions across all three sites.	Medium Term: quote works and begin installing priority items Long Term: review report and install lower priority items	

School Building	Level of current accessibility	Limitations to current accessibility	Proposals to increase accessibility 2024-27	Ongoing accessibility problem incapable of resolution
PRE-PREP:				
General Access:	Car access into front car park area with direct access to dining Hall and Main Hall.		Path maintenance and repairs to be carried out.	

	Access to Main Building via 2 shallow steps. Flat path access to left hand side of Dining Hall or right-hand side of Main Hall into rear playground and access to Nursery Building. Disabled parking Space at front of Main School	Step into Main Building entrance		
	Triam School			
Nursery: Double Mobile at rear of Main Building.	Can be approached via side path through gates into rear playground.	6x 5"steps to front entrance double doors. Portable ramp available. Secondary access can be achieved through RHS fire exit (this has small threshold to overcome).	Access ramp to be investigated to LHS Fire exit.	
Nursery: Single Mobile	Accessed via linking bridge from Main Nursery building.			
Main Hall	Full wheelchair access via front double-door entrance and shallow ramp. Alternative Fire Exit via side	Second fire exit via 4 steps into Rear Playground.	None	
Lodge: Ground Floor	Can be accessed by wheelchair from front entrance into conservatory			
Lodge: First Floor	Use for private music tuition only.	Access via flight of narrow stairs.	None	
Outer building: Art	direct access from front playground.	2 Steps to front door. Portable ramp available if required.		
Main Building: Ground Floor	Wheel chair access within the ground-floor area. Accessible toilets in the art room and ground floor lodge	•		

Main Building: First Floor	None	Steep stairs with 180 degree turn	None	
Dining Hall	Full wheelchair access via front double-door entrance	n/a	n/a	
Main Building: Basement	Not accessible by wheelchair	Steep stairs from playground or steep stairs from Ground Floor	None	Installation of stair lift not feasible. Full lift financially unviable.
OVERALL SUMMARY:	Wheelchair access for visiting parents to Main Building ground floor, Lodge, Dining Room, Art			

School Building	Level of current accessibility	Limitations to current accessibility	Proposals to increase accessibility 2021-24	Ongoing accessibility
JUNIOR SCHOOL:				
Ground Floor:				
External Font Entrance	Paved flat area accessed via ramp from path and Car Park	Entrance doors via three broad shallow steps with temporary portable ramp available. Alternative route and entrance via rea of building and Brenda Medlock wing.		
Music Room J21	Flat and double-door access via front patio or Dining Hall			
Dining Hall J22	Flat and double-door access via front patio or Entrance Foyer			
Entrance Foyer J20	Flat and 2x double door access			

Staff Room J2F	ш			
Administrative Office J2H	All fully accessible			
Head's Office J2G				
Toilets J2E	One accessible toilet J2E			
First Aid Room J2D	Flat access	Narrow door but accessible		
Main Hall J23	Flat access and double doors			
Top Landing:				
Access to landing	Via 6-step stairs. Alternative access via Medlock Wing.	Too narrow for permanent ramp and too steep for mobile ramp	None	
First Classroom J31	Flat Access from Landing. Fire Exit via corridor to Medlock wing. Accessible toilet in Medlock Wing along flat corridor	Alternative Fire Exit via 18 steep steps <4ft wide not viable. Secondary exit onto open first floor balcony only.	None	
Second Classroom J32	As above	Secondary exit onto open first floor balcony only.	None	
Third Classroom J33	As above	As above	None	
Fourth Classroom J34	As above	As above	None	
Art Room J35 & Bookshop J3G	As above	Secondary exit via flat corridor into J3134 onto open first floor balcony only.	None	
Mid Level at Rear:				

All fully accessible	Flat access and double doors from Rear of building into lobby, changing rooms, rear entrance to Main Hall and on into Dining Hall and Front of building.	External access via 2 steps down and 4 shallow steps up to meadow pathway. Temporary ramp available. Fire Exit at rear via changing Rooms corridor.	None	
Meadow, netball court and playtrail, and Astroturf.	Vehicle access to Junior Car Park and/or Fire Road to junction with paths. Flat/ gradually sloping path access down to Astroturf, and up to Netball Court	None	None	
Lower Corridor:			None	
External Rear Lower Entrance:	Access via Rear entrance into Brenda Medlock wing, and accessible lift down to ground floor and on into main building lower ground floor.		None	
Classroom J11 classroom	Flat access from Lower Corridor; Fire Exit direct onto outside patio/ meadow.	Fire Exit: 4" step, but alternative exit via Medlock Wing.	None	
Classroom J12	As above	As above	None	
Classroom J13	As above	As above	None	
Classroom J14	As above	As above	None	
Resources/ Office J1A	As above	As above	None	
Music Rooms at rear J1A- K	Flat access from lower corridor and access to girls and boys toilets; also accessible toilet in Medlock Wing.	Fire Exit via rear doors but onto steep grassy bank; alternate route via Medlock Wing.	None	

Library J24		6 steps down, steep and <4ft wide, from front entrance or rear Mid-level	None	No obvious solution.
Science Room J01		Access via stairs not possible. Alternative access via Fire Exit with flat access direct onto meadow.	None	
OVERALL SUMMARY:	Wheelchair access to main front areas via front entrance; and lower corridor classrooms and music rooms via Lower Rear Entrance. Other areas accessible via Brenda Medlock Technology Centre with accessible lift and toilets.	Various levels accessed only by stairs of narrow width; with limited corridor widths preventing internal lift solution.	Noe	
	Generally good handrails throughout building for limited mobility.			
	Accessibility of power points for desk-top and/or laptop computers.	Generally low-down to avoid interference day-to-day.	Assistance would be provided.	

School Building	Level of current accessibility	Limitations to current accessibility	Proposals to increase accessibility 2024 - 2027	Ongoing accessibility
SENIOR SCHOOL:				
SENIOR SCHOOL:	Vision. Extensive delineation of wall/door surrounds	Increased marking of edges, particularly on steps		

	SEND		Where possible the School will make reasonable adjustments, both on-site, as well as for offsite activities.	
	Ramped access to Wessex Building from middle entrance			
B Block: Science Labs. & Classrooms				
Entrances & general:	1) Ground Floor Access - Front entrance Access: via Lower Road, flat access through gateway to double-door Entrance Lobby.	First floor: access to adjacent Main block Science Labs. Limited by 3-steps up into connecting corridor (due to differing building levels).		
	2) First Floor Access - Rear (North) Entrance access: vehicle access via ramp in front of Wessex building into First floor of building.		None	
	3) Lift available between First and Second floors.			
	4) Accessible toilet located on Ground floor adjacent to the Lift.			
	5) All other DDA/ Building Regulation requirements re colour coded switches, sills, etc in accordance with latest regulation			

Sports Hall:			
Front Entrance	Flat paved access from parking bay to main entrance and side of building with ramped kerbs.		
Main Sports Hall	External access via double (outward-only) Fire Doors	Low (3") step, but accessible by wheelchair.	
Lobby and Health and Wellbeing Centre	Flat double-door access and vinyl flooring		
Balcony and Fitness Suite, plus offices and single classroom.	Lift and stepped access to first floor with alternate access via rear stairs (both Fire Exits). Small ramped access onto viewing gallery and into Gym.		
Ground Floor Changing rooms and toilets.	Level access from ground-floor front entrance.		
Q Block:			
Ground Floor Laboratories & Classrooms.		N.B. All doors 780mm width.	
Q13	Access via Lower Car Park Ramp. Modern fixed benches, not adjustable but OK. Hard safety surface.	Fairly steep ramp but satisfactory.	

	Level of current accessibility	Limitations to current accessibility	Proposals to increase accessibility 2024-27	Ongoing accessibility problem incapable of resolution
Q11	Access via Q13 or via Main Block Rear Entrance. Hard flat surface. High level laboratory desks and chairs			
Q12	Access as above. High level laboratory desks and chairs			
Chemistry Office	Chemistry office moved 2022 and can only be accessed via stairs.			
Ground Floor Classrooms: Q14	Flat access from Main Rear Door entrance lobby onto vinyl flooring, High level laboratory desks and chairs	Doors as above.		
Main Rear Door Lobby	Access from Lower Car Park via paved and tarmac paths, but then via flight of concrete steps.	1)Alternate Access via Q13: see above. 2) Only female toilets on ground floor - no male or accessible toilets. Accessible toilet available in B-Block: see above.		
Locker and general area access	1) Main Locker canopy areas, rear of Theatre, Music School & Astroturf: Access from above via ramp in front of Wessex. 2) Access to rear of Music School: as above and via ramp to rear single door entrance 3) Route between Sports Hall and New	1) Limited access from below due to concrete steps. Alternate access from above. 2) Route between Sports Hall and New Building Entrance involves several steps. See alternate route via front entrance.		

	Building via new flat access front entrance. Alternative route via flight of 3-4 steps with handrails.		
Q Block cont.:			
Middle Corridor	From Ground Floor Rear Entrance Lobby via staircase only onto hard-surface landing 1.5 metres wide.	2 flights of stairs (x6 and x14); 2 metres wide and steep.	
English office	Access from landing OK	Narrow door 75cm	
Physics Labs.Q24 and Prep Room	Via double-door into hard- surface areas.	As above	
Classrooms Q26/27/28 and offices	Carpeted corridors OK with flat access into rooms. Male & female toilets.	Office doors too narrow. Classrooms OK. Toilets for visitors and staff only; no accessible toilet.	
Alternate access from Theatre Foyer	Via single flight of 10 steps onto flat surface through double doors into corridor.	Steps steep and only 1.6m wide.	
Main Teaching (Q) Block cont.:			
Top Corridor	Access from Theatre Foyer	Via single 1.6m wide flight of 10 steps.	Lift or other options unviable.
Classrooms Q34/33/32/31 and office	Classroom doorways OK all accessed off 900mm wide carpeted corridor.	No male or female toilets on the same floor. No accessible toilet. Fire Exits via main staircases.	As above

Theatre:			
Middle Car Park Entrance	Flat tarmacked area with ramp up to foyer entrance.		
Foyer	Via double-doors, push/pull, into flat carpeted area.		
Theatre auditorium	Via double push/pull doors into flat wooden floored area. Matrix and chair seating as well as raked seating. Room for wheelchairs in audience area. 2 Fire Exits via main entrance/exits.	Third Fire Exit via side door leading to several steep concrete steps.	
Music School:			
Access to Rear entrance	From Lower Car Park (see above) plus limited vehicular access via ramp in front of Wessex to rear of Music school direct.		
Access to front of Music School	Via Theatre Foyer and through double doors into Music corridor	Short flight of stairs (x5), steep and 1.6m wide. Double doors pull only. Alternate access via rear entrance.	
Side access to Music School	Via walkway at base of Willett steps.	4" step. Very narrow doorway (700mm) and corridor. Alternate access via rear entrance	

Classrooms (P13,14,15); Office and individual Music Practice rooms.		Narrow doorways to all rooms.	
Wessex			
Library:	Vehicle access via ramp in front of building leading to double door access at. Block paving access. Toilets on first floor via a lift - fully accessible. 2nd access to library via ramp at first floor level, lift access to library	however Library assistance	
Dining Hall	Either by access via library and use of internal lift or as above via ramp at ground floor level. Toilets fully accessible		

	Level of current accessibility	Limitations accessibility	to cur	rent	Proposals to increase accessibility 2024-27	Ongoing problem resolution	accessib incapable	oility of
Function room top floor:	Access via internal stairwell or lift. Fire exit via external staircase involving 15 steps with landing.							
Holbeche Centre:								

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Design Technology Department (Ground Floor)	Front Access (1 + 2) from MFL Car Park via 7 steps	Single flight of 8 concrete steps. See alternate route below.		Unable to change redraw fire exit steps to a ramp.
	Front Access (3) Ramp via G block to take into ground floor of MFL then flat access to DT			
	Rear Access (4) multiple steps both internal and external access into ground-floor carpeted foyer, then via double door access into A12, A13 a&b, and A14 via A13, all hard safety surfaces with flat access throughout.	September 2019 as part of new		
Ground Floor Foyer - rear entrance	Double-door access and carpeted	Wholly unviable as narrow concrete walkway to 3-turn narrow steep concrete steps.		
Ground Floor - Photography Class teaching area and display room.		Steps up into teaching area too narrow and steep to allow ramp access.		
First Floor - Sixth Form Centre	Access (1&2) via MFL Car Park and 7 steps and then lift to first floor. Access (3) Ramp via G block to ground floor MFL then lift to first floor Access (4) from Nethersole Rear Car Park down steep narrow iron staircase.	Lift installed September 2019		
First Floor -Sixth Form Centre H22	Double-door access and carpeted	Fire Exit other than two access routes via emergency Fire Exit bridge to Top road. No toilets		

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		on first floor. Accessible toilet via lift		
First Floor - Study Area H21 and adjacent offices.	Access via single door into flat carpeted area.	See above. Also Fire Exit via emergency door at rear of room into Art Centre but see below.		
First Floor - Art Studios	Access (1) via front ground floor entrance then flight of stairs to first floor	Stairs only 1.2m wide with 180 degree turn		
	Access (2) Walkway access from rear of Nethersole	Flight of narrow, steep concrete steps to flat tiled walkway into single outward-opening door with single step.		
Studios and offices	Flat safety surface throughout with double doors and single (>800mm) doors.	Widespread use of stools, but table heights OK and adjustable easels.		See above
Modern Foreign Languages	Access 1, 2 & 3 as Access 1, 2 and 3 for DT		New build DDA compliant completed Sept 2019	
Nethersole:				
Front Entrance:	Vehicle access to front tarmacked surface. Front door 900mm wide OK	4 steep steps, 1.3m wide, to paved terrace then 2 further steep steps into front door.	Possible portable ramp. Based in Stewart building	Listed building status would make it difficult to create permanent ramp access.
Foyer	Hard polished wood surface OK			

Head's Study, Reception, Admissions Secretary and Secretaries' offices	Via wood one-way doors 900mm wide, all carpeted with flat access.	No accessible toilet. Head's toilet via narrow door 750mm wide. Accessible toilet available in nearby Willett building.		
General pedestrian access:	From North Road via sloping paved path to side and rear of building. Alternate route via main driveway and front entrance.	1. Path slopes up to 2 shallow steps then involves down 7x 1.5m wide steps; up 8x 1.5mwide steps; (left down 5 steps to Willett Hall); then RH turn up 7x steps to Nethersole Lower ground entrance & N11. 2. Flight of 16 shallow but 3m wide steps up to Ground Floor Rear Entrance.		
Outer Classroom N11 and Lobby	Outside door into lobby and door into classroom.	Access to rear courtyard via flight of broad shallow steps from rear of Nethersole.2x 6" steps up to door, but subsequent flat access into enlarged Lobby and Classroom.	Portable ramp available if required School investigating ramping broad shallow steps as part of Nethersole refurbishment.	
Lower Ground Floor:	Via Lower ground rear entrance into 1.2m wide carpeted corridor	2 steps into inward-opening door - single but 1m wide	As above.	
Reprographics Room	Flat access. Assistance with photocopying provided.			

N12 Classroom & Office	Flat access off corridor with standard desk heights.		
Nethersole Rear Basement Entrance	Accessed from Nethersole Rear Car Park down ramp into Lower Ground Corridor area.	2 steep stone steps down onto ramp with uneven stone paving slabs. One handrail only on part of the section. Small step into single wide doorway 900mm.	Listed building restrictions (including stone ramp surface) prevent significant changes.
N13/14/ N1F & Offices	As above.	As above	
N13 & 14	Refurbished rooms with open classroom space.		
IT Office and server room.	Refurbished rooms as per Building Regs. (July 2008).	Raised floor in Server room for server racking: special step access for IT Technicians only.	

	Level of current accessibility	Limitations to current accessibility	Proposals to increase accessibility 2024-27	Ongoing accessibility problem incapable of resolution
Access to upper floors:	Narrow (850mm) stairs to ground, first and second floors.	Steep stone steps x17 with 180deg. Turns to Ground Floor, exit blocked by cupboard. Continuing stairs 800mm wide of 22 steps and 3 turns to First Floor via single 800mm wide door. Continuing 19 steps to second Floor via single narrow door 700mm. Single handrail only. Open stair rails. Steep steps.		

Nethersole Second Floor :			
N43/44 & offices	Access via stairs see above into top carpeted corridor. Flat access from corridor into all rooms flat and carpeted. Standard classroom tables.	All narrow doors 700mm. Fire Exits via stairs to Rear Basement Entrance or along corridor with narrow pinchpoint 700mm, down 2 steep steps and down via stairs to rear Ground Floor Entrance - see below. One small Female toilet only on this Floor.	
N41/42 and offices	Access from N45,44 above or via stairs from Rear Ground Floor Entrance. Flat carpeted area with standard tables	All narrow doors 700mm. Stairs 800mm wide with 20 steps down and 2 turns to First Floor.	
Nethersole First Floor:			
N34/35/36 & offices	Flat access from corridor, carpeted and standard desks.	Access via Rear Basement entrance Stairs or rear Ground Floor Stairs via 2 steep steps and along landing or via Front Entrance and up Main Staircase see below	
N31,32,33 and offices	Access via landing and 2 steps - see above or from Rear Ground Entrance stairs. Carpeted landing and flat access into carpeted rooms with standard tables.	Stairs from Rear Ground Entrance carpeted but 2 flights of 11 steps and 180 degree turn. Narrow doors into N31 Classroom 700mm. No toilets on First Floor.	

Nethersole Rear Ground Floor lobby and boys toilets.	Access from Rear Car Park with single inward only wide door 900mm.	6" step into lobby and boys toilets. Access to staffroom and stairs through narrow doorway 700mm followed by 5 steep steps to carpeted hall way.		
Main Staffroom	Flat access from hallway via 900mm wide door into carpeted and linoleum floor area. 700mm high workbenches.	3 wide shallow steps between upper and lower halves of the room.		
OVERALL SUMMARY	Multitude of steps and stairs between areas as well as Floors. Narrow corridors and doors. No accessible toilets.			Lift access to some or all Floors financially unviable, severe space restrictions, no single location would access all areas. Limitations on extent of restructuring required due to age and Listed status of building.
Stewart Building:				
Meeting Room S1J	Accessed via internal corridor or via double patio door with mobile ramp and step ramp. Flat carpeted surface with unisex toilet.	No accessible toilet.	Accessible toilet available in Willett Hall, Junior School or modern foreign languages	
Ground Floor offices: for access to	Main access from Rear Nethersole Car Park.	3 steep concrete steps into front lobby and ground floor corridor, flat and carpeted.		

Bursar; Accounts Dept.; Marketing & Development Office; Resources Office (Bursaries Administration).		Access to Resources Offices via 3 steep steps down, then flat carpeted access. Alternative access via double external doors (low ledge but accessible to wheelchairs) into S1J Meeting room; then flat access to Development and Bursars' Office.		
Boardroom and First Floor Offices	Accessed via narrow wooden staircase. Flat access from landing into Boardroom, three offices, one unisex and one female toilet.	12 steps, 180deg. Turn and 4 further steps up to landing. No accessible toilet. Further 4 steep steps down into two Accounts Offices.	Meetings can be arranged and held in S1J - see above.	
Willett Hall	Demolished Jan 2014. Entrance to rear of Kitchens via pedestrian walkway from North road and ramped access to double doors to rear of kitchens.		Completed May 2015- All three floors accessible. External Ground works to circumnavigate steps	
Temporary Portacabins	3 Lower floor classrooms are accessible via ramps - 2 fed directly by an external ramp, one classroom by an external ramp leading into an internal lobby. Upstairs classrooms and office reached by internal staircase turning at 180 degrees half way up.		Structure on site until 2025 when they will be replaced by a yet to be designed compliant build	Temporary structure which has no scope for lift nor stair lift
Rose Drama Studio	Access 1 - level via front door to mezzanine level and then lift to lower ground and/or upper	None	New DDA compliant build completed September 2018	

	ground. Access 2 - via ramp to 2 single doors tom lower ground level - as above, lift access then to first floor		
New Academic Building	A new 14 classroom DDA compliant building is scheduled to open Autumn 2025	This new building includes increased disabled access into MFL and Holbeche	
E Block	DDA compliant classrooms installed for one academic year whilst the new academic building is being constructed.		
Overall Comments:			
Nature of the site and age of buildings has restricted full extent of improvements.			
Other Comments			

