

Sun Academy Accessibility Plan | 2024/25

Accessibility Plan Purpose

All academies within Academy Transformation Trust seek to ensure that all our learners receive a high-quality education from expert staff and aspire to achieve the best they possibly can, no matter their background or ability. We promote a fundamental belief in equality of opportunity in the classroom and throughout the Trust.

Our learners have safe, supportive learning environments in which they develop, grow, and challenge themselves. We are determined that our learners will receive the very best enrichment and opportunities to help them reach their full potential and ensure they are prepared for the future, wherever it might take them. Our support for all children within our care extends to those children with additional needs that require assistance to help them fulfil their potential.

Academy Transformation Trust and their Academies are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all students, staff, parents, carers and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and want to develop a culture of inclusivity and tolerance through raising awareness, use of strengths-based language, accessibility and education.

Academies are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. It is the responsibility of the SENDCO to complete or review this accessibility plan every year, overseen by the Principal of the Academy. The Academy plans to increase accessibility over time, working to ensure provision is accessible for all. The accessibility plan will include relevant actions to:

- Increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities

Our academy aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind. We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including pupils, parents, staff, and governors of the academy.

Legislation

This document meets the requirements of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the <u>Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice</u>, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments, such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a pupil with disabilities faces in comparison with a pupil without disabilities. This can include, for example, the provision of auxiliary aids or adjustments to premises.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

Accessibility Plan

Overarching aim	Aim	Current Good Practice	Strategies to continually improve accessibility	Responsibility	Date to complete actions by	Success Criteria
Increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum	 Our academy offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils Adaptive Teaching through 7C's Judith Carter Model We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum Curriculum resources include 	We liaise with a range of outside agencies including the following;	Continue to audit staff training requirements and issue training to fill gaps and enhance the quality of curriculum delivery through effective adaptive teaching. SENCO to continue to engage in regular learning walks, pupil voice, book looks to ensure they are triangulated to consider how pupils are accessing the curriculum.	SENCO/Curriculum lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.	Ongoing	Increase in access to the national curriculum

examples of people with disabilities. • Curriculum progress is for all pupilincluding the with a disa. • Targets are effectively appropriate pupils with additional. • The curriculum eviewed to sure it meets of all. To ensure that curriculum is differentiated to provide equal after all.	We review pupil passport targets on a termly basis and discuss progress with parents as part of these discussions. Children complete NTS tests every term and progress is reviewed by the SLT team for all pupils. Interventions and support can then be offered if needed. Ilum is o make ets the I pupils All teachers are trained in how to use a variety of adaptive teaching methods,	Continue to audit staff training requirements and issue training to fill gaps and enhance the quality of curriculum delivery through effective adaptive teaching. This year specifically focussing on strengthening neuroinclusive practice.	SENDCO and Teaching and Learning Lead	On going	Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.
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To ensure that the teaching and learning methods and environment supports pupils with a hearing impairment.	writing equipment and classroom position. There are quiet spaces in between each classroom which children can access. Forward facing desks at the front of the classroom are provided to facilitate lip reading. This may be angled towards the teacher to optimise hearing. Clear enunciation and considered talking speed by staff members.	Regular meetings with the Hearing Impairment team as and when needed to ensure provision is appropriately matched to the child. Consider staff training around BSL.	SENCO/Curriculum lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.	Ongoing and when a child with a hearing impairment joins the school.	Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.
To ensure that the teaching and learning methods and environment supports pupils with a visual impairment.	Use of visual cards or pictures to aid understanding, especially with very young children. Modified print if needed. This includes during tests. Extra time in tests (100% extra time currently) Access to modified equipment such as enlarged rulers/protractors, writing	Regular meetings with the Visual Impairment team as and when needed to ensure provision is appropriately matched to the child.	SENCO/Curriculum lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.	Ongoing and when a child with a Visual impairment joins the school.	Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.

To ensure that the teaching and learning methods and environment supports pupils with SEMH needs. Staff have corrected awareness trainterventions anger manage esteem boost	at the front of clear view of h the teacher oil. Itions for all staff Cadmus Inclusion Advisory team around the Nurture Room to ensure we are offering a broad and balanced offer of SEMH interventions for pupils. In the teacher oil. Continue to liaise with Cadmus Inclusion Advisory team around the Nurture Room to ensure we are offering a broad and balanced offer of SEMH interventions for pupils. Develop Lego therapy and Sand tray therapy across upper KS2 (staff have had the training in Summer 2024) Ember of staff itive play. Embers of staff ure Trained by letwork UK. Inge of SEMH including ement, self-	SENCO/Pastoral staff/Nurture staff Class teachers through daily teaching. September 2024 to facilitate more intervention.	national curriculum. ure Barriers to learning are removed.
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To ensure that the teaching and learning methods and environment supports pupils with physical needs.	Adapted seating in some classrooms- these include things such as bean bags and various chair types. Weighted blankets and toy animals are provided to each class along with a sensory box. These can be personalised for children if needed. All classes have planned movement breaks planned during 3 key intervals in the school day. We have a strong working relationship with the OT/ Physio team and will work alongside them to deliver individualised therapy	Continue to audit staff training requirements and issue training to fill gaps and enhance the quality of curriculum delivery through effective adaptive teaching. Sensory breaks and the use of sensory Audits will be a focus from September 2024.	SENCO/Curriculum lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.	Ongoing and when to be reviewed when a child with a medical condition joins the academy.	Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.
To ensure that the teaching and learning methods and	programmes as advised by external professionals. We have care plans for pupils who have a diagnosed medical need. These are	Continue to audit staff training requirements and issue training to fill gaps as	SENCO/Curriculum lead.	Ongoing 3 members	Increase in access to the national curriculum.
environment supports pupils with diagnosed medical needs.	shared yearly, and parents are asked to come and inform the office of any changes to these plans. We currently have staff	required. Additional members of staff to complete medication administration for items such as calpol.	Class teachers through daily teaching.	of staff require refresh in September.	Barriers to learning are removed.
	trained in the following;	σαστι ασ ταιροι.			

Peg feeding x 3 members of staff.		
Diabetic training x 3 members of staff		
Ashma and epilepsy training all staff in October 2023.		
We have additional staff		
trained in paediatric first aid above the minimum requirement.		
We support parents by liaising with medical		
professionals and attending meetings and appointments if required.		
Medication and equipment		
is safely stored and signed for in line with our medical conditions policy.		
Risk assessments are produced where needed in		
conjunction with parents and medical professionals		
for events such as school trips.		

To ensure that the teaching and learning methods and environment supports pupils with ASD.	ASD-friendly approaches incorporated universally in QFT (eg visual timetables). In addition, specific further adaptations are made for individual pupils. Ongoing staff training and support from advisory teams as needed. Most recent April 2023.	Continue to audit staff training requirements and issue training to fill gaps and enhance the quality of curriculum delivery through effective adaptive teaching. The academy have brought into the AIT package for September 2024 allowing for further support to be accessed if needed.	SENCO/Curriculum lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.		Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.
To ensure that effective speech and language provision in EYFS and across KS1, with improved early identification and intervention.	WellComm/Early Talk Boost screening programs used for early identification of SALT needs. Targeted support and intervention provided, often by specialist TAs with support from external therapist as needed. We also use deliver Attention Autism as an intervention to help with early listening and attention skills.	Consider the introduction of Concept Cat in the EYFS setting to improve early language development. Consider additional training to get more EYFS staff training in level 1 Makaton.	SENCO/EYFS lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.	Screening for Wellcomm/T alk Boost takes place in Autumn 1. Ongoing review of children as they enter the setting.	Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.
To ensure that improved identification of (and provision for) pupils who have specific	Resources purchased to support dyslexic pupils in school (eg Nessy and memory fix) and strategies used by staff	Continue to audit staff training requirements and issue training to fill gaps and enhance the quality of curriculum delivery through effective adaptive teaching.	SENCO/Curriculum lead. Class teachers through daily teaching.	Ongoing	Increase in access to the national curriculum. Barriers to learning are removed.

learning difficulties eg:	incorporated into QFT, to				
dyslexia.	make dyslexia-friendly	Consider getting more staff			
	classrooms.	trained in using the dyslexia			
		screening tools in school.			
	We have access to a				
	specialist Dyslexia Teacher				
	through Cadmus Inclusion				
	services who can offer				
	advice and guidance as part				
	of our core offer.				
	The SENCO is trained to				
	complete a range of				
	assessments that can be				
	used to identify specific				
	difficulties.				
To ensure that all	Through discussions with	Continue to build links with	SENCO/Enrichment	Ongoing.	All pupils can access the
pupils can access	parents, staff and providers,	various education sites	lead.		curriculum. Barriers to
residential/school trips	reasonable adjustments are	which will be able to fully			inclusion are made
including those with	made to enable inclusion.	meet the needs of all of our	Class teachers		through reasonable
SEND and/or medical	Pre-visits, additional	learners. (Enrichment lead)	through daily		adjustments.
needs.	staffing, accessibility of		teaching.		
	transport and		J		
	accommodation etc				

Overarching aim	Aim	Current Good Practice	Strategies to continually improve accessibility	Responsibility	Date to complete actions by	Success Criteria
Improve the	To be aware of the	Gather data around access	Consider the use of	SENDCO and	Annually or	Our buildings and grounds
physical	access needs of all	needs when a child starts at	communication in print to	SLT	as required	are accessible for all pupils,
environment	pupils, staff, parents and	our Academy. Create access	create posters for key			staff, parents and carers,
of the school	carers and to make		elements of the school.			

to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided	reasonable adjustments accordingly.	plans for individuals as required. Regular reminders to parents and carers to let us know if they have problems with access to any areas of the Academy. Access to translators or interpreters have been used previously if needed and will have freeded and will				governors and visitors to the Academy. All parents can confidently access information about their child.
	To ensure that the disabled toilets remain accessible to all.	be offered where possible. We have 2 disabled toilets in the academy. One is in the front office area and the second is located at the top of the KS2 corridor. Both have an emergency pull cord that can be activated if needed.	Consider the use of an electronic changing bed for younger children who may require changing.	All staff	To be monitored daily.	Disabled toilets are always easily accessible.
		These are checked daily by the caretaker in the morning and again by the cleaning team at the end of the day.				
	Ensure the SENCO reviews the school environment to suit the needs of the pupils.	Sun Academy Bradwell is all on one level meaning that we only have 1 set of stairs in the academy. This area can still be accessed via a lift which has been installed for wheelchair users.	Continue to audit staff training requirements and review the site termly with the site manager.	SENCO/SLT and site staff.	Annually and when a child with a physical need starts the academy.	All parts of the Academy are accessible for all pupils, staff, parents and carers, governors and visitors to the school.

	We have 2 ramps in the academy corridor. 1 leading to the dining room and one leading to the hall. These are wide enough to allow a wheelchair to pass. We have 2 disabled toilets on site. We have a disabled parking bay on site located on the main entrance car park. Many of the shared spaces such as the library have shelves of various heights to allow easy access. We have yellow strip mark step edges on all of our steps in communal areas.				
Ensure an effective escape routes are in place for a fire/ lock down procedure.	A Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) will be created for any child with a difficulty which could mean that they are unable to leave the academy quickly in the event of an emergency.	Research and implement the use of visual alert systems for a fire/lock down.	SENCO and SLT	September 2024	All pupils can quickly and safely evacuate the building in the event of an emergency.

Ensure accessibility to IT	Use of magnifying lenses	Research and implement the	SENDCO and	When we	Children with visual
equipment	and anti-glare lenses for the	use of software to aid the	IT Technician	have a child	impairment will be able to
	iPads installed.	visually impaired when using		with a VI join	interact with IT equipment,
		the iPads		the academy.	adding an additional tool to
	We have a strong working				enable accessibility to IT
	relationship with a range of				equipment.
	organisations and will work				
	collaboratively to ensure				
	that we act on any				
	suggestions for				
	resources/equipment that				
	can support.				

Overarching aim	Aim	Current Good Practice	Strategies to continually improve accessibility	Responsibility	Date to complete actions by	Success Criteria
Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities	Our academy uses a range of communication methods to make sure information is accessible. This includes: Internal signage Large print resources Induction loops Pictorial or symbolic representations Options to translate key documents via class dojo.	We have an induction loop in the main office area. We have a translate button on our class dojo system which we use to communicate key messages. We have the option to share information in a variety of ways including email, letter, dojo, telephone or face to face. We also have access to a text reader which can scan text and translate this back	Continue to Liaise with parents as part of the parent voice to gather views on the way information is shared and how can be improved.	SLT and office staff	Ongoing	All parents/carers can confidently access information about their child's education. Improved engagement of parents and careers

	into a language of your choice.				
Key materials can be translated into various language to ensure key messages are shared.	The academy has a translate option on class Dojo where parents/children can translate the content of the message into their native language. Access to translators or interpreters have been used previously if needed and will be offered where possible.	Consider the accessibility of the school website and how this can be more accessible. Eg: high visibility mode and the option to translate the information into a different language.	Office team and SLT.	Ongoing	Delivery of Academy information to parent and carers, as well as the local community, is improved.
Written materials will be available in a variety of different supportive formats	The academy currently works in collaboration with the LA and Integrated Care Partnership to screen for visual impairments and conditions and ensures that written resources are available in a variety of fonts, sizes and colours to aid students' needs. School office will support and help parents to access information and complete school forms. Face to face appointments can be booked with the class teacher or a member of staff if a parent prefers verbal communication.	The academy should ensure the school newsletter and information bulletins can be enlarged and are available in a variety of different fonts, written in accessible language for parents and carers.	Principal	On going	Delivery of Academy information to parent and carers, as well as the local community, is improved.

can a parer diffic	call communication o be supported for s who may have sy accessing the materials.		
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Measuring the Impact of the Policy

The Principal, Education Team and Estates team will review the Accessibility Plan annually with the SENCo and any other relevant members of staff.

The impact will be assessed through regular meetings. Improvements to the physical environment will be considered by the Regional Estates Manager.

When setting objectives, academy staff should consider how the impact of actions will be measured. The accessibility of the curriculum and shared information for students, staff, parents/carers and visitors will be scrutinised as part of our academy improvement (CSI) activity. The Accessibility Policy and all other relevant policies will be evaluated and monitored for their equality impact on students, staff, parents/carers and visitors. The main findings from equality impact assessments will be shared with the Local Governing Board.