



The Federation of North and South
Cowton Community Primary School and
Melsonby Methodist Primary School



ACCESSIBILITY POLICY AND PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to show how The Federation of North and South Cowton and Melsonby Methodist Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

Definition of Disability

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

Legal Background

From September 2002, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 outlaws discrimination by schools and LA's against either current or prospective disabled pupils in their access to education. It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented and reviewed and revised as necessary.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum (this includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits;
- improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services (this includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education;
- improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled (this will include planning to make written information that is normally provided by schools to its pupils available to disabled pupils. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about school events. The information should take account of the pupils' disabilities and the preferred format of pupils and parents and be made available within a reasonable timeframe.

The Federation of North and South Cowton and Melsonby Methodist Primary School aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and other members of the school community positively, wherever possible, takes reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled pupils.

As part of the school's continued communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders we continually look at ways to improve accessibility through data collection, questionnaires and parental discussions.

Contextual Information

The sites of both schools are accessible by wheelchair users. Both schools have accessible disabled toilets at ground level. However, both schools have classrooms that can only be accessed by stairs and so modifications would need to be made to the school environment if use of stairs was an issue.

Accessibility Plan 2020-2022

Targets	Strategies	Outcome	Timeframe	Achieved
Equality and Inclusion				
To ensure that the Accessibility Plan becomes an annual agenda item at FGB Meetings.	Clerk to Governors to add to list for FGB meetings.	Adherence to legislation.	Annually	
To improve staff awareness of disability issues.	Review staff training needs. Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate.	Whole school community aware of issues.	On-going	
To ensure that all policies consider the implications of disability access.	Consider during review of policies.	Policies reflect current legislation.	On-going	
Access to the Physical Environment				
To ensure that, where possible, the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all children and adults.	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by Governors.	Modifications will be made to the school building to improve access.	On-going	
Continue to improve access to the school's physical environment for all.	Suggest actions and implement as budget allows.			

To ensure that our school is physically accessible to all members of the school community	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by Governors. Suggest actions and implement as budget allows.	The school will be more accessible.	On-going	
Access to the Curriculum				
To continue to train support staff to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEN.	SENCo to review the needs of children and provide training for TA's as needed.	TA's are able to enable all children to access the curriculum.	On-going	
To ensure that all children are able to access all out-of-school activities. E.g. clubs, trips, residential visits etc.	Review out of school provision to ensure compliance with legislation.	All providers of out-of- school education will comply with legislation to ensure that the needs of all children are met.	On-going	
To provide specialist equipment to promote participation in learning by all pupils.	Assess the needs of the children in each class and provide equipment as needed e.g. special pens, radio aids, writing slopes etc.	Children will develop independent learning skills.	Reviewed termly by SENCo	
To meet the needs of individuals during statutory end of KS2 tests.	Children will be assessed, in accordance with regular classroom practice, and additional time etc will be applied for as needed.	Barriers to learning will be reduced or removed enabling children to achieve their full potential.	Annually	
Access to Written/Other Information				
To ensure that all parents and other members of the school community can access information.	Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary.	Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary.	As needed	
To ensure that parents who are unable to attend school, because of a disability, to access parent's evenings.	Staff to hold parents' evenings by phone or send home written information.	Parents are informed of children's progress.	Termly	