

## **Accessibility Plan**

# **Queen Mary's Grammar School**

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Next review due by: March 2022

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#### 1. Aims

The aims of this Accessibility Plan are to ensure that Queen Marys' Grammar School continues to work towards increasing the accessibility of provision for all students, staff and visitors to the school. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:

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

Our school aims to treat all its students fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all students without discrimination of any kind.

Queen Marys Grammar School is committed to a fair and equal treatment of all individuals able bodied or disabled and, on a continuous basis, will work towards improving access to the physical environment, to the curriculum and to the provision of information in order to ensure access for all.

At Queen Marys Grammar School, we are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors, regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are further committed to challenging attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion. We are committed to providing a full curriculum to as many students as possible and we aims to enable all young people to achieve their full potential, academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually. In particular, the Governing Body recognises its responsibility under the Equality Act 2010 which prevents discrimination against disabled people in their access to education.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan. We work closely with the sensory support service to ensure that we are informed of any difficulties that students with VI or HI have in accessing the school site.

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

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including students, parents/carers, staff and governors of the school.

#### 2. Legislation and guidance

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

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled 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 undertake normal day to day activities.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for students with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled student faces in comparison with non-disabled students. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

#### Queen Mary's Grammar School Accessibility Plan

The plan aims to improve access to all aspects of education within Queen Mary's Grammar School and is organized in a way that helps to remove any existing barriers to student learning. It also aims to widen the opportunities for including more students within the school and to look positively at ways in which existing difficulties can be overcome. In this way the Governing Body is showing its commitment both to the members of the school and to the wider community based on the promotion of self-respect and respect for others.

The plan has three sections:

- 1. Improvements in access to the curriculum by:
- Providing for all students a curriculum which is appropriate to their needs.
- Ensuring that the curriculum is delivered in such a way that all students, regardless of any impairment, may benefit fully from it.
- 2. Physical improvements to increase access to education and associated services by:
- Ensuring that all the schools buildings and grounds are fully accessible to students with mobility, sensory and other impairments.
- Providing appropriate educational equipment and physical aids to ensure that educational programmes in the school can be fully accessed by all students.
- 3. Improvements in the provision of information in a range of formats for disabled students by:

• Providing for students and their parents/carers, information about the academy and its curriculum in a format that takes account of any disabilities.

### **3.** Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim	<b>Current good practice</b> Include established practice and practice under development	<b>Objectives</b> State short, medium and long-term objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Increase access to the curriculum for students with a disability	Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all students. We use resources tailored to the needs of students who require support to access the curriculum. Curriculum progress is tracked for all students, including those with a disability. Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for students with additional needs. The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all students.	Short Term All staff are continually trained to employ quality first teaching strategies in the first instance in response to individual needs Ensuring all staff have the relevant training from outside agencies where appropriate to support the specific needs of some of our most vulnerable students.	Curriculum modified in response to changing needs as informed by the SENDCO/SEND leads Plan and deliver bespoke training opportunities when the need arises	SENDCo to oversee	Ongoing	Students making expected or better progress. Learning Walks ensure this is embedded in lessons. Staff are confident at using suggested strategies, Students benefit from an adapted delivery of curriculum appropriate to needs.

Medium Te Ensure that succession in place for specialist ro the school s we will alwa the expertis required wit team despit changes to	we have planning every e within o that ys have e hin the e	advise and advise and direct training	September 2019	Staff training and qualifications in place to ensure the learning and physical needs of all students are met
Long Term PE curriculu further adap suit the nee learners. Th should inclu accessibility equipment a activity	ted to from OT and ds of all services are s actioned. All de and adapted of equipment to	PE department ternative be	ongoing	All students access 100% of PE lessons regardless of activity

access to the physical environment • Ran • Lift	<i>b the needs of</i> <i>s required. This</i> Students with specific needs have all the appropriate equipment and	Purchase of specialised ergonomic chairs to assist access to the school environment as needed	OT and PT advice to SENCo	Latest purchases made to accommodate transfer of student from 11-16	
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	<ul> <li>Accessible parking bays</li> <li>Accessibility toilets and changing facilities</li> <li>Stair lifts</li> <li>High visibility strips to mark stairs, hand rails and vertical support post</li> </ul>	Personal evacuation plans for identified vulnerable students.	Develop PEEPs for specific students. LSAs informed of which students they are responsible for in an emergency situation. Peeps forms are stored with emergency evacuation register held by SEND lead and brought to the evacuation point.	SENDCo	provision to Sixth Form March 2019 and ongoing	Identified students are aware of their PEEP. Completed PEEPs in place for all identified students.
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Timetables for identified studed are continually checked to ensi- designated classrooms in e subject area are accessible both size and position in the school building. ie Wheelchair use not timetabled i upper floor classrooms with lift access.	h create a suitable timetable to meet their need.	Timetable lead and SENDCO	Annually	All identified students are timetabled in appropriate classrooms to meet their needs
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	Medium Term To continually maintain yellow/ fluorescent warning strips on vertical posts, steps and handrails, to support students with VI	All areas both internal and external to be included, ongoing maintenance of existing warning fixtures and strips. Checked and maintained all year round.	Site Manager	Ongoing, new buildings and sites to be included	All students with VI are able to navigate successfully around school safely
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	Long Term To ensure that all new and existing buildings and rooms allow independent access for all	New plans to be closely monitored. Ensure total compliance with building and DDA regulations. Increase the number of automated doorways for students who would ordinarily rely on LSA or teacher support to open doors Ensure that all fire exits are suitable for all students, including those with mobility issues or wheelchair users.	SENDCo/Site Manager	The Sixth Form and offices environment July 2019 To be discussed	All students are able to independently access all areas of school both internally and externally Students are able to independently navigate the whole building unaided. With the exception of upper story classrooms without a lift in operation.
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Improve the delivery of information to students with a disability	Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes: Internal signage Large print resources Braille Induction loops Soundfield systems available most curriculum areas Pictorial or symbolic	Short Term Investigation and research needed to provide HI student with an alert device. Allowing access to all school alerts, to include fire alarms and intruder alarms.	A suitable device to be agreed with the school and student that will allow SMS alert direct to the student. In times when they are without an adult or fellow student to alert them of alarm. This will also benefit them to increase independence.	SENDCo/Site Manager source suitable and affordable device that will work.	October 2019	Student and SSS to be confident that alerts are clear and Student can become more independent.
	<ul> <li>British Sign Language</li> </ul>	Medium Term All sound field systems have been serviced and operational Mobile hearing loop system in all large rooms/venues within the school site	All Curriculum areas to be adequately covered Hall and Auditorium covered with hearing loop system Design and Technology to have a portable soundfield unit installed	SENDCO/Site Manager	Review October 2019	Improved systems across the school will support students with HI more effectively.

Long Term Flashing alarm/ ale for HI students.	rt Flashing alerts are installed to work with current audio bell system	Site Team	To be discussed	All students with a HI are able to access all alerts.
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Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every three years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by the Local Governing body and the Headmaster

Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Special educational needs and disability policy
- Supporting students with medical conditions policy