



# Accessibility Plan 2023-24

## Cumwhinton School

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## 1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

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

**Cumwhinton School** strives to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school are such that, whatever the abilities and needs of members of the school community, everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect. All pupils should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

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.

The school follows all recommendations and policies set by Cumbria Local Authority.

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 parents, pupils, staff and governors of the school.

## 2. Legislation and guidance

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 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.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), '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 disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

### 3. Action plan

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

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Current good practice</b> <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	<b>Objectives</b> <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	<b>Actions to be taken</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>	<b>Date to complete actions by</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>
<p>Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability</p>	<p>Cumwhinton School offers a differentiated curriculum for all children of all abilities and uses specific resources to ensure certain pupils are able to access the curriculum fully.</p> <p>Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.</p> <p>Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.</p> <p>The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.</p>	<p>Training for specific staff to aid pupils with hearing impairment and those with ASC.</p> <p>Curriculum is always accessible to all pupils</p>	<p>Audit of CPD required to ensure specific staff are fully trained.</p> <p>Ongoing review</p>	<p>Headteacher / SENCo</p> <p>Deputy Headteacher</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>All relevant staff are fully trained and able to help pupils access the full curriculum.</p> <p>All pupils can always access the full curriculum.</p>
<p>Improve and maintain access to the physical</p>	<p>The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required.</p> <p>This includes:</p>	<p>The physical environment is always accessible to pupils,</p>	<p>Ongoing review of the physical environment.</p>	<p>Headteacher, Office Manager and Health &amp;</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The physical environment is always accessible to anyone who uses the school</p>

environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acoustic boards in hall and a classroom.</li> <li>• Access to all areas of the school without steps.</li> <li>• Elevator available if required.</li> <li>• Disabled toilet and shower facility.</li> <li>• Withdrawal space for pupils with ASC/ hearing impaired / behavioural needs</li> </ul>	staff and visitors.		Safety committee governors		building.
Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability	<p>Cumwhinton School uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internal signage</li> <li>• Transmitter and receivers for pupils with hearing impairment</li> <li>• Pictorial or symbolic representations eg visual timetables</li> </ul>	All pupils are able to receive information regardless of any disability they may have.	Ongoing	SENCo / Headteacher	Ongoing	Any pupils with a disability will be able to receive information from a variety of sources.

## **4. Monitoring arrangements**

This document will be reviewed every **3** years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by the Health and Safety governors committee.

## **5. Links with other policies**

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

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

## Appendix 1: Accessibility audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Corridor access	Corridors are accessible for wheelchairs although in some areas there is little room for manoeuvre.	If required in future, consider widening areas of concern.	Headteacher	As required
Lifts	Currently have a lift – not in current use but could be if required.	If needed, lift could be serviced and brought back into use.	Office Manager	As required
Entrances	Entrance gates are not currently accessible to wheelchair users.	Sign to be placed on gates advising any wheelchair users to phone for assistance.  New build proposed and gates will be replaced as part of this and will be fully compliant.	Office Manager	Spring 23
Toilets	Disabled toilet available with shower facility.	Ensure access route is kept clear at all times.	Caretaker	Ongoing
Fire Alarms	Currently auditory alarm in place.	Visual fire alarms to be installed in new areas of the school and when any older areas are being developed.	Office Manager	ongoing