

Gloucester Nursery School

Accessibility Plan

2022 - 2023

Introduction:

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2011 (SENA) and schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Definition of Disability:

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA): **‘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.’**

Key Objectives:

Our objectives are: to reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and for all stakeholders (children, prospective parents, staff at the nursery, parents and the adults from the community) to fully participate in the life of the school.

Principles:

- Compliance with the DDA is consistent with Gloucester Nursery School’s Equality Duty and the Inclusion Policy
- The school recognises its duty under DDA and Equality Act:
 1. Not to discriminate against disabled children in their admissions and provision of education and associated services
 2. Not to treat disabled children less favourably
 3. To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled children at a substantial disadvantage
 4. To publish an Accessibility Plan

- The school recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his or her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's rights to confidentiality
- The school provides all children with a broad and balanced play-based curriculum; differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual children and their preferred learning styles, endorsing the key principles in the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, which underpins the development of a more inclusive curriculum
 1. Responding to children's' diverse learning needs
 2. Setting suitable learning challenges
 3. Overcoming potential barriers to learning for individual and groups of children

Delivery of the curriculum:

School staff will receive appropriate training and support in making the curriculum accessible to all children and are aware of its importance. The school will continue to seek to follow advice of support services such as the West Northamptonshire Council Council Early Years Specialist Team and appropriate health professionals.

Physical Environment:

The school will take account of the needs of children and other users with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

Provision of information in other formats:

The school is aware of local services, including those provided by the Local Authority (LA) to provide information in alternative formats when required or requested. The school also promotes the LA Local Offer.

GLOUCESTER NURSERY SCHOOL, NORTHAMPTON Ref: 9281005

2 year old provision at Gloucester Nursery School – G2

3 year old provision at Gloucester Nursery School – G3

Aspects Considered	Action / Proposal	Timescale O S M L	Comments
Building, external areas, furniture and equipment			
Cleaning and maintenance G2 and G3	Maintain the building, site and all facilities in a clear and tidy state. Ensure maintenance works and repairs are carried out as soon as practical	O (on-going)	Many problems can be avoided by ensuring spaces are not obstructed and damaged fittings and finishes are promptly repaired.
Maintenance and redecoration G3	Be aware of the opportunity to create a more inclusive environment when decorating or replacing fabric and fittings	On-going	New disabled toilets will be decorated with contrasting colours when next redecorated
Approach from Camborne Close by vehicles G3	Borough Council responsible for grounds at front of Nursery. Future discussion with County for provision of a car park and a dropped kerb adjacent to the Nursery site entrance	L (long term)	There is no 'car park'. Spaces are for local residents only. Nursery use of cul de sac is tolerated by local residents. Look to develop Gloucester Avenue entrance for car park in future, but costs prohibitive. Sign reminding parents to park safely etc. on display.
Main entrance G3	Keep the area outside the main entrance free of obstructions	Complete	Parents are asked to 'park' buggies and bikes in buggy store. Plant pots to be placed carefully. New buggy store built Summer 2007
Gloucester Avenue entrance G3	Improve the security of the gate to Gloucester Avenue entrance for all	Short	Adequate security in place and all staff fully understand procedures relating to safeguarding children (reviewed annually)

Nursery Garden G3	Maintain the condition of block paving.	On-going	Steps removed, pathways paved and well defined (June 2008). Contractors cleaned and stabilised block paving (Summer 2013). Remedial work to block paving (December 2018).
Nursery Garden G2	Resurface part of G2 outdoor area with soft play surface and invest in a canopy	Long term	Canopy erected October 2016. Soft play surface adjacent to Family Room cleaned by contractor November 2016. Pathway installed August 2018.
External Play Areas (from environmental audit) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No handrail for wooden steps from the sand pit. ▪ No differentiation between each step of sandpit. ▪ Front edging step and threshold needs to be visibly prominent. ▪ Banister rail in playhouse needs to be visibly prominent. ▪ Black support post near the entrance from garden to nursery needs to be visibly prominent G3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A high visibility yellow line along the front edging step and threshold at the playhouse entrance added. ▪ A high visibility yellow line around the end of the banister rail of the above steps in order to make it more visible has been added. ▪ Approximately 1 metre of ribbon added to the black post in order to break up its form 	Short	Investigate cost of handrail for steps. Adaptations made by nursery practitioners – dependent upon each cohort
Communication and Consultation			
Information for parents and carers G2 and G3	Continue to review the methods of communications which may be required for parents with additional needs and parents with English as	On-going	There are visual photographic or symbolic signs for children by toilets and wash basins. Translation of information for parents with English as an additional language

	an additional language and ensure these are provided, if required		
Assessing the requirements of children with additional SEND. G2 and G3	The Headteacher and other staff will discuss the requirements of individual children and make arrangements as appropriate for anyone with additional special educational needs who use or could use the premises. Carry out risk assessment	On-going	Inclusiveness is an on-going process
Reviewing arrangements G2 and G3	Any issues arising where the building, facilities and other arrangements are problematic will be reported to the Headteacher. Access arrangements will be reviewed accordingly	On-going	Unforeseen issues can arise because of specific disabilities or events
Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan in place for individual children G2 and G3	Review and revise PEEPs for individuals at the beginning of each year	In place at beginning of each academic year	PEEPs shared with identified staff and parents.
Staff Training and Development			
Staff Training	Review accessibility with staff and if appropriate arrange disability awareness training	Medium	All staff aware of accessibility plan
Accessibility Plan	Discuss the access plan, review the actions taken and update the plan	Medium	This plan was discussed at the Personnel and Finance Committee meeting and agreed by the Full Governing Body – October 2022

Achievements:

Work carried out	Achieved	Impact
Block paving outside the main entrance	September 2007	Even surface Aesthetically pleasing for visitors
Finger guards fitted and maintained throughout the building	September 2007, replacements 2010 and 2018	No accidents
Removal of uneven slabs and steps in the nursery garden	June 2008	Safe area Aesthetically pleasing
Fence installed around small area next to Family Room	2010	Security and safety improved
Emergency cord installed in the toilet areas opposite the office	Summer 2007	Unknown impact, only been used once by child in error
Information translated for parents with English as a second language	January 2011 On-going	Some increase in the number of parents with EAL accessing nursery provision and services and the children's centre. Some parents have corresponded in their first language in regards to their children's learning and development.
IQM (Inclusion Quality Mark) Awarded	May 2013 and June 2016	Continually review and revise practice and provision to ensure that inclusive practice continues to develop and improve.
New 2 year old provision set up in wooden structure	June 2015	Increase numbers of vulnerable children having places in G2
The nursery remained open throughout the pandemic	April 2019 – On-going	Parents continued to go to work or work from home. Children's education (particularly the most vulnerable) continued and children had the opportunity to socialise with others and received support from practitioners particularly in the area of PSED.