

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN FOR THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE



**NAMED PERSON: JANE YOUNG
BUSINESS MANAGER**

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

**ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 2011
REVIEWED: SEPTEMBER 2020
REVIEW CYCLE: 1 YEAR
NEXT REVIEW DATE: SEPTEMBER 2021**

The Buckingham School – A Specialist Sports College

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

1. ADMISSIONS

Prior to the admission of a student with specific accessibility requirements a full assessment will be undertaken, including site visits, to ascertain the nature of the requirements. The assessment will involve the student, his/her parents/carers, the Local Authority and staff at the school.

When current facilities are not suitable the school and the Local Authority will agree the appropriate action to be taken, the timescale for delivery and the funding source to be used for providing required additional resources/facilities

2. PHYSICAL ACCESS

The original school buildings are over 75 years, old and as such were never designed for disabled access. The Main Block and the Jubilee Building, have been adapted/built to include access considerations.

Current arrangements include:

- **Lift Access** to first floor in the Main Block and Jubilee Building
- **Ramps** to the main Reception, Science Labs S5 & S6 and to the Old School Block at the entrances to Performing Arts, Technology and Art
- **Kerbs** have been lowered on various paths to enable/improve access around the site
- **Disabled toilets** have been installed in all school buildings
- **Changing rooms** are available with hoist facilities and shower in the Jubilee and old school buildings
- **Evac-chairs** – on all landings above ground floor level with appropriate training delivered to staff concerned
- **Fire doors** to lift entrances in the Jubilee and Main School buildings.

The school will continue to respond to changing needs as necessary, for example, the provision of additional access ramps, disabled toilet facilities with hoist and shower provision, LSA and detailed Personal Evacuation Emergency Plans (PEEPs).

Additionally, all new buildings and refurbishment plans will take account of providing suitable access in conjunctions with Buckinghamshire County Council.

3. CURRICULUM AREAS

Where possible we will ensure that students have access to all our curriculum areas. This may necessarily involve the support of Learning Support Assistants (LSA). For example, every effort will be made to make school visits and journeys possible by suitable choice of venue to minimise risk and by forward planning to ensure that all students can gain best value from the experience.

At present, wheelchair users have full access to the curriculum, supported by a team of LSAs, who assist in various ways to ensure that the students are not disadvantaged by their specific medical conditions. Alternatively, lessons will be re-roomed to ensure full access by all students as and when necessary.

EHCP students with physical disabilities are the subject of a site access/risk assessment/curriculum access prior to joining the school, as directed by the LA. The assessment will be carried out by specialist professionals i.e. occupational therapists, special teacher for the disabled, in order to assess school site suitability and to ensure that any necessary adaptations and equipment can be put in place.

4. TRAINING

Members of staff are regularly updated as to the needs of specific students. This may include wheelchair access both around the building and in classrooms, where issues such as the height of desks might be a problem

LSAs have been given specific training to fulfil their role and this is repeated as required.

Members of staff, both teaching and support, have been trained to provide onsite first aid when required and request professional medical assistance if needed.

5. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Depending upon the specific problem, alternative forms of information will be provided for users as appropriate. For example:

- Examination papers will be enlarged for visually impaired students
- Amanuenses will be used for students with physical disability of both a temporary and permanent nature
- Where appropriate, students will be able to record work on audio tape, CD or in digital format rather than in written form.
- The school website will accommodate those with particular requirements e.g. font style and size
- Information from the school will be provided in a suitable format for specific parents/carers when required.

This Accessibility Policy will be reviewed every year to take account of:

- Changes to the school environment and organisation
- Advice from the Local Authority
- National legislation, guidance and proposals

THE BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL – A SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE



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Adopted: September 2011
Reviewed: September 2020
Review Cycle: 1 Year
Next Review Date: September 2021

Mr Matthew Watkins
Chairman
Governing Body

Signed:  **Date:** September 2020