



BEAUCHAMPS HIGH SCHOOL – ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Last Reviewed : January 2017

Last Amended : April 2019

Next review : January 2020

Introduction

Under the Equality Act 2010 schools should have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that “schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation”

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities

Beauchamps High School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all students, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. The school is taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school

Beauchamps High School has adopted this accessibility plan in line with the school’s special educational needs policy with the aim to ensure that the school is socially and academically inclusive, that all students have access to a full curriculum, and that all students are appropriately challenged. This plan is created in response to the recommendations made in the school’s last access audit which took place in November 2016 and should be read in conjunction with the Access Audit

Our Special Educational Needs policy outlines the provision that our school has in place to support students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and the school’s publication of equality information and objectives explains how we ensure equal opportunities for all our students. Increased access to the curriculum, physical access to the school, and access to information are particular to students with SEND, and this accessibility plan provides an outline of how the school will manage this part of the SEND provision

Under the remit of the Equality Act 2010, provision should be made for all students with disabilities and ensure that they are not discriminated against. The need for specialist support and educational provision should be clearly identified and used effectively, to the full benefit of the student’s development. Under SEND, the school has a duty to audit access to buildings and facilities and develop an Accessibility strategy and plan covering a 3 year period which aims to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled students can participate in the school curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school increasing the extent to which disabled students can take advantage of the education and associated services provided by the school

- Improve the delivery to disabled students of information which is provided to students who are not disabled

1. Access to the curriculum, information and associated services:

Students with SEND will be given access to the curriculum supported by the school's specialist SEND provision and in line with the wishes of their parents and the needs of the individual

The school curriculum is regularly reviewed to ensure that it is accessible to students of all levels and abilities, and supports the learning and progress of all students as individuals. This includes learning outside the classroom

It is our aim to ensure that all resources and SEND provisions are being used effectively and efficiently within the school setting in order to support the taught curriculum and enable students to reach their full potential. The school does this by:

- keeping staff fully informed of the special educational needs of any students in their charge including sharing progress reports, medical reports and teacher feedback
- providing regular training and learning opportunities for staff in all departments on the subject of SEND and SEND teaching to ensure all staff are up to date with teaching methods that will aid the progress of all students including those with SEND
- making use of all class facilities and space
- using in-class provisions and support effectively to ensure that the curriculum is differentiated where necessary
- making sure that individual or group tuition is available where it is felt that students would benefit from this provision
- any decision to provide group teaching outside the classroom will involve the SENCO in providing a rationale and focus on flexible teaching. Parents will be made aware of any circumstances in which changes have been made
- setting appropriate individual targets that motivate students to do their best, and celebrating achievements at all levels
- listening to students' views and taking them into account in all aspects of school life

2. Sensory and physical needs

The school has some of the following adaptations in place to meet sensory and physical needs and those not yet present are being planned for the future:

- appropriate seating, acoustic conditioning and lighting
- adaptations to the physical environment of the school
- adaptations to school policies and procedures
- access to alternative or augmented forms of communication
- provision of tactile and kinaesthetic materials
- access to low vision aids
- access to specialist aids, equipment or furniture
- regular and frequent access to specialist support

3. Reasonable adjustments

The school will also make reasonable adjustments for individual students who need extra provision than that which is already in place to make sure that all students are involved in every aspect of school life, and that all barriers to learning are removed. These may fall under the following headings:

The building and grounds:

- audio-visual fire alarms
- assistance with guiding

Teaching and learning:

- a piece of equipment
- extra staff assistance
- an electronic or manual note-taking service
- readers for pupils with visual impairments

Methods of communication:

- a piece of equipment
- the provision of a sign language interpreter, lip-speaker or deaf-blind communicator
- induction loop or infrared broadcast system
- videophones
- readers for pupils with visual impairments

This accessibility plan will be evaluated every 3 years to monitor its effectiveness and ensure that it covers all areas of accessibility that are needed in the school

Priority Ratings

Priority A:

Where there are potential health and safety risks or where failure to implement changes would be highly likely to attract legal implications. Immediate action is recommended to put changes into effect.

Priority B:

Where action is recommended within the short term to alleviate an access problem or make improvements that will have a considerable impact.

Priority C:

Where action is recommended within 12 - 24 months to improve access.

Priority D:

Where the recommendation involves excessive costs or should be implemented as part of a long-term plan.

KEYS FOR COSTS

Budget costs have been included in the form of bands.

N - None M - Minimal OG - Ongoing Maintenance ST - Structural Change

Accessibility Plan for Beauchamps School

November 2016

Item	Areas	Recommendation	Priority A	Priority B	Priority C	Keys for costs	Target date	Date Achieved
1	Car Park	Install a sign at the entrance to your car park directing drivers to the disabled/visitor car parking for your school. Mark out pedestrian walkways in the car parks.	X			M	2017	Sign installed - January 2017
2	External Ramps and Outside Steps	Ensure that the ramps are kept clear of grit and gravel which could present a trip hazard and that the surfaces are kept in good condition. Mark start and end of ramps as indicated.	X			M	OG	
3		Install further handrails where necessary so that there are 2, one on each side of every ramp and steps with 3 risings or more.	X			M	2017	Handrails installed - July 2017
4		Mark tape at the start and end of each handrail to aid the visually impaired students and visitors.	X			M	2017	Handrails marked with tape by January 2017, followed by on-going checks and repairs when required

5		Paint nosings on the top and front of each step to highlight changes in levels. Usually yellow paint is used. Ensure faded nosings are renewed	X			M	2017	Nosings painted by April 2017, followed by on-going checks and repainting when required
6	Entrances	Check the door closures regularly and alter accordingly. Because manual door closers are fitted to all of the entrance doors, make sure these are adjusted to provide the minimum force necessary to open or close the doors. Install automatic entrance doors if the budget permits.	X			N	2017	All door closers checked by February 2017, followed by on-going checks and repairs when required
7	Internal Areas	Ensure that missing bulbs and fluorescent tubes are replaced as soon as possible. Ensure that circulation routes are kept clear of obstructions, such as sports equipment, deliveries, and stationery.	X			M	OG	
8	Reception Area	Ensure you provide at least one seat with arms in your waiting area.	X			N	2017	

9	Signage	It is inclusive to incorporate tactile signage into all new signage. Change all signage in upper case to lower case.	X		X	M	OG	
10	Internal Doors	Ask the caretaker to check every door for noise levels regularly and adjust accordingly when necessary	X			N	OG	
11		If you admit a visually impaired pupil offer an end coat hook at an independently accessible height.	X			N	OG	
12		Mark propped open doors with well contrasting markings along their narrow edges. Label glass doors with posters or decorative designs.		X		N	2017	
13		Change door handles as part of your ongoing maintenance programme to the D shape handles			X		OG	

14	Internal Staircases	Highlight the start and end of each staircase with marking tape or different coloured carpet tiles. This will greatly assist a sight impaired person. Highlight handrails at both top and bottom to give a clear visual marker	X			N	2017	Handrails marked with tape by February 2017, followed by on-going checks and repairs when required
15	WC's provision for disabled users	Arrange disability awareness and etiquette training and some form of basic manual handling training for appointed members of staff. Instruct the cleaners to allow the alarm cords to hang freely so that they can be easily pulled in the case of an emergency.		X		M	2017	Cleaners advised – November 2016 Manual handling training undertaken by relevant staff – February 2017
16		Provide signage showing the locations of the accessible toilets.	X			N	OG	
17		Install and ensure that the coat hooks are at a suitable height and mirrors. Choose contrasting coloured fittings in the toilets.	X			M	2017	
18		Remove any obstructions on escape routes daily	X			N	OG	

19		Ensure fire doors are in working order and there are no obstructions on the outside	X			N	OG	
20		Provide wheelchair handling training to teachers and caretakers	X			M	OG	
21		An individual should be delegated to ensure all escape routes are free from obstructions. This needs to be done daily	X			N	OG	
22		Continue to train staff to assist in evacuation procedures especially in helping the mobility impaired. Awareness training maybe required	X			N	OG	
23	Outdoors	Purchase a suitable outdoor picnic table for wheelchair users		X		M	2017	