

Claregate Accessibility Plan : September 2021 to December 2024

To be read in conjunction with policy for Special Educational Needs and Equalities. This policy focusses on how people with disabilities access site and the education that we offer.

Claregate Primary School takes the needs of people with registered disabilities seriously and we will make all reasonable adjustments to comply with regulatory requirements and make all people who enter our site feel welcomed and valued. We survey our community to ensure that we know all people likely to enter the site and their needs.

In line with our motto "Inspire tomorrow today ..." we will facilitate and encourage independence, making pupils less reliant on practical adult assistance and gaining pride in their abilities to take into their future lives.

We will prioritise the needs of people who are currently in our school community and address their needs accordingly. There are currently no children diagnosed as being physically disabled at Claregate Primary School (September 2022). Issues such as temporary hearing loss or visually impaired are corrected with minor adjustments such as glasses. Although we have a hearing loop, it is not required presently.

The front entrance to the school is level and easy to access. There is a digital lock which bars entrance without a member of staff granting it, so they will open the door for those with mobility problems as part of the signing in process. There is a hearing loop system in the front office if required for casual visitors. All of the lower ground floor is accessible by wheelchair, and we have disabled toilet facilities in every block.

We ensure that there is correct manifestation for those with visual impairment. There are colour differences between skirting boards and the carpets.

In the last few years we have added visual readers to messages for VI parent / carers, communicated via an app that can be enlarged, built a DDA compliant entrance porch with ramp and wide access doors, fitted magnetic hold open doors to the main block, provided adjustable tables and chairs, added dome magnifiers, ipads and sloping boards, carried out visual Health and Safety checks, provided wider access doors to Year 2 the RIB Room, and hall doors, installed a toilet for disabled people in the main block, written a personal evacuation plan in case of fire. We also have weighted blankets and a range of small resources such as coloured overlays to help pupils with diagnosed conditions such as ADHD and ASD.

We have made home learning more accessible by distributing paper copies for pupils who find screen time challenging due to specific needs. For those who can access, it we have implemented a system of home learning on the "Seesaw" platform.

We have added new plasma screens to each classroom which are easier to see for VI children.

Regarding access to the curriculum - our system of planning is to put "All, Most and Some" work on the board. This ensures that all learning is visible to all pupils and there is not imposed "glass ceiling" on tasks to be completed for pupils with learning needs. Tasks are completed based on understanding in that particular lesson.

We routinely ask if there are any parents or pupils who are registered disabled, so we can make reasonable adjustments.

Physical Change Plan September 2021 to August 2024

Sub-divide the RIB room creating an additional room for music and then convert the music room into a “nurture room” so pupils with diagnosed ASD can access facilities for a sensory calming environment.	August 2021	£3,400
Re-paint steps in yellow for VI recognition.	October 2021	£50
Re-paint manifestation on poles in main block.	October 2021	£25
Re-lay paths between main and south block so they are level and even for wheelchair users.	March 2022	£26,000
Improve lighting in South and North block to improve navigation by VI pupils.	August 2022	LA capital fund.
Fit corduroy flooring to upper stair landings.	August 2023	£600.
Reconfigure the parking spot for disabled people so it provides off street parking without the gate being opened. Remove gate and add extra fencing, signpost to main entrance, disabled parking paint on floor.	August 2023	£5,000 Devolved capital.

Green type denotes improvements that have been completed.

If and when required, we will make quick, reasonable adjustment for people with disabilities e.g.

- Re-organise class bases or meetings to ensure that people with mobility difficulties do not have to reach the upper story of the school.
- Put self-openers on doors where access is required for people in wheelchairs.
- Fit or re-position sound field or loop systems to specific classrooms and multi-use areas e.g. the hall and music room.
- Make side entrances to main block level.
- Install an evacuation char for fire emergency.
- Provide bespoke visual or hearing apparatus and technology as required by the individual
- Add braille signage or VI trails around the school
- Helping parent / carers to access Local Authority school transport that they may be entitled to as part of a plan.