



*If you can dream it...*  
Ysgol Bae Baglan

# Ysgol Bae Baglan

# Accessibility Plan

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF POLICY

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Date passed by Governing Body: Nov 15<sup>th</sup> 2017

Chairman.....*E.V. Latham*.....

## **Background**

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 2010 makes it “unlawful to treat disabled people less favourably than other people for a reason related to their disability.”

As a result of this legislation each Local Education Authority has a legal duty to prepare an accessibility strategy for the schools for which it is responsible.

Each school in turn is responsible for ensuring that pupils with disabilities are not discriminated against. Schools must produce their own accessibility plan to show how they will ensure and improve access to the curriculum, physical access and access to information for disabled people. It should also show how resources will be appropriately targeted to meet the objectives of the plan.

## **Definition of Disability**

Within the Disability Discrimination Act 2010 “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.”

This is a very wide definition and includes people who have long term physical, sensory, mental and medical conditions which limit their functioning for an extended period of time.

The key objective of the legislation is to reduce and eliminate barriers to the full participation in the school community of pupils and parents with such a disability.

## **General Statement of Policy**

The school is committed to working towards equality, promoting positive approaches to difference and fostering respect for people from all backgrounds.

The school welcomes its duties under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 and other equal opportunities legislation and is opposed to all forms of prejudice and discrimination.

The school recognises that the community we serve is made up of people with a wide range of disabilities. It is our aim that the school should provide for all members of this community equally.

All employees have a responsibility to read, understand and comply with this policy.

## **Aim**

The philosophy of the school is based upon the importance of the individual. Every learner at Ysgol Bae Baglan is valued as an individual, is catered for as an individual and is given the opportunity and encouragement to develop to the greatest extent as an individual.

Ysgol Bae Baglan aims to ensure that all learners have access to the curriculum, including physical access to learning activities and also that learners and their families and/or carers have access to relevant information.

The basic aim of the accessibility plan, therefore, is to ensure that learning takes place in an atmosphere and physical environment that is both caring and protective. Only when learners

feel safe, happy and protected will they be able to achieve their full potential and be successful.

1. We are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
2. Ysgol Bae Baglan plans, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school. The Accessibility Plan will focus on the physical environment as access to the curriculum is covered in other policies (see Additional Needs and Curriculum). Overall, accessibility will include:
  - Improving access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
  - Increasing access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the pupils without a disability; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA). This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. It also covers the provision of specialist aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
  - Improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.
3. Accessibility plans will be reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. New Plans will be drawn up every three years.
4. We acknowledge that there is a need for ongoing awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.
5. The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:
  - Curriculum
  - Strategic Equality Scheme
  - Health & Safety Additional Needs
  - Building Positive Learning Relationships
  - School Prospectus

- School Improvement Plan and Team Development Plans
  - Supporting the Learning of all Students
6. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly by the Local Authority. It will not be feasible to undertake all the works during the life of the Accessibility Plan and therefore items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit is revisited prior to the end of each three-year plan period to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
  7. The School Prospectus will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.
  8. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published in the Governors' Annual Report to Parents.
  9. The Plan will be monitored through the Students and Learning Committee and the Premises Committees of the Governors.
  10. The school will work in partnership with the local education authority in developing and implementing this plan.
  11. The Plan will be monitored by Estyn as part of their inspection cycle.

#### Ysgol Bae Baglan Accessibility Plan 2016-2019 Improving the Physical Access at School

Existing facilities to assist access to the school by pupils with disabilities:

- 2 lifts positioned in key areas within the school to provide available access to all floors. Lift in reception area providing access to main offices.
- disabled toilet facilities
- provision of appropriate number of disabled parking bays
- yellow edging to internal stairs to aid students with visual impairment
- sinks at appropriate height for wheelchair access in laboratories.
- all rooms equipped with a height adjustable table.
- signs throughout site that direct disabled users We continually look to improve facilities for disabled people, to provide improved access.
- Hi equipment in classes
- Room soundproofing
- Physio room with hoist
- Wet / dry rooming facilities

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Timeframe	Achievement
Support staff in meeting the needs of all learners	Provide on-going information, coaching, professional development and support to staff.	All teachers can more fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs and of children with additional educational needs with regard to accessing the curriculum.	On-going	Increase in access to the curriculum
All out of school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils.	Out of school provision to meet with compliance and legislation	All out of school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements	On-going	Increase in access to all school activities for disabled pupils
Make available written material in alternative formats. If required	The school will make itself aware of the services available through the LEA for converting written information into alternative formats	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purpose	As required	Delivery of information to disabled pupils improved.
Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats, if required	Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it	All school information available for all	As required	Delivery of school information to pupils and parents with visual difficulties improved