



ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

PART 1 MAT

Last review date	September 2019
Date approved by the Trust Board	October 2019
Date for next review	September 2020

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Introduction

The Leading Edge Academies Partnership (the 'Trust') is a team of school leaders that aim to be Leading Edge and pioneering in their approach to education and well-being. We are a growing family of like-minded schools that offer a values based education to the communities we serve and welcome staff, workers, students, parents/carers and volunteers from all different ethnic groups and backgrounds.

The term 'Trust Community' includes all staff, trustees, governors, students, parents/carers, volunteers and visitors.

We are a values based Trust, which means all actions are guided by our six 'Es' as follows:

- **Ethical** – 'Doing the right thing'
- **Excellence** – 'Outstanding quality'
- **Equity** – 'Fairness and social justice'
- **Empathy** – 'Caring for others'
- **Evolution** – 'Continuous change'
- **Endurance** – 'Working hard and not giving up'

This policy is based on the value of '**Equity**'

PART 1 Trust Accessibility Plan

1. The Trust is 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. The Trust plans, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the **physical environment** of Trust sites, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the sites of members of the Trust and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase 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 able-bodied pupils; This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the Trust, such as participation in after-Academy clubs, leisure and cultural activities or Academy 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 Trust events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.
3. Attached are Action Plans, relating to these key aspects of accessibility. These 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
 - Equal Opportunities and Diversity
 - Staff Development
 - Health & Safety (including off-site safety)
 - Inclusion
 - Special Needs
 - Behaviour Management
 - Academy Improvement Plan
 - Asset Management Plan
 - Academy Brochure and Mission Statement
 - Teaching and Learning File
6. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit, which is undertaken regularly by the Local Authority. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this first Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each first three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
7. As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on Equality and Diversity. The terms of reference for all LAC committees will contain an item on "having regard to matters relating to Access".
8. The Trust will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.
9. The Trust's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
10. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published in the Trustees' Annual Report to Parents (statutory).
11. The Plan will be monitored through the Curriculum and the Premises Committees of the LACs.
12. The Trust will work in partnership with the local education authority in developing and implementing this plan and will adopt in principle any Cornwall Council Accessibility strategies.
13. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.