



Penarth Group School  
Positively Growing Success

# Penarth Group School

## **Accessibility Plan**

January 2019

## Introduction

The aim of Penarth Group School curriculum is to prepare students for adult life by developing the skills, knowledge and understanding which they need in order to choose, set and achieve their personal goals and live their lives to their full potential. Those goals may include academic aspirations, vocational or career plans, hopes for independent living or choices of rewarding leisure and recreational pursuits, all underpinned by the ability to form strong social and personal relationships.

To summarise, Penarth Group School will:

- Meet a student's Special Educational Needs
- Increase a student's independence
- Increase a student's personal and social skills
- Promote self-empowerment in students so that they learn to make reasoned, positive life choices

## The Equality Act 2010 - Disability

This plan has been prepared in response to the school's duties under Section 88 of The Equality Act 2010. The school recognises the following duties:

- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions and provision of education and associated services;
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably;
- To publish an Accessibility Plan (known as the Planning Duty).

## Definition of Disability

A disabled person is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act as:-

**'A person who 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'.**

## The Planning Duty

The Act places a duty (the Planning Duty) on schools to prepare Access Utility Plans for:

- Increasing the extent to which pupils can participate in the school curriculum, e.g. leisure activities and school visits.
- Improving the physical environment of schools to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services.
- Improving the delivery of written information, e.g. hand outs, timetables etc.

Independent schools must make their Accessibility Plans available to interested parties on request at reasonable times.

## The Accessibility Plan

This plan aims to improve access to all aspects of education within Penarth Group School and is organised in a way that helps to remove any existing barriers to pupil learning. It also aims to widen the opportunities available to students who may have had restricted access to the wider community in previous settings. This is our commitment to developing the outcomes within Penarth Group School aims and objectives.

The Penarth Group will monitor the implementation of the plan and regularly review the access needs of the school.

**This plan will be reviewed in January 2020.**

**It will be made available on the school's website.**

### Improving Access to the Curriculum

	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Goals Achieved</b>
<b>Short Term</b>	To ensure that a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum is in place for all age groups and needs.	Annual Curriculum review undertaken by Headteacher and Lead Teacher in consultation with the Teaching Team.	All students have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum that meets their individual needs.	Consultation Period opens in Spring Term in preparation for Summer Term timetable construction.	Increase in range of GCSE subjects offered.
	To increase the access to a range of externally accredited qualifications.	Annual Curriculum review undertaken by Headteacher and Lead Teacher in consultation with the Teaching Team.	Clear pathways for progression for every level of ability in place.	Currently on schedule	Increase in range of qualifications offered with support programmes to allow access for all within the expectations of the Equality Act.
	To improve effectiveness of access to external providers	Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of external provision to ensure access is available for all students with appropriate support	All students will have equal access to external providers of education who are able to successfully meet their individual needs.	Annual monitoring in September each year.	Students are able to access link provision with FE/school partners as required.
	Ensure Learning Environments are suitably adapted to meet the needs of our students	Headteacher to lead on assessing Learning Environment adaptations and purchase of relevant equipment.	Every Learning Environment is fully adapted to meet student needs. Students' sensory needs are adapted for in Learning Environments.	Ongoing programme of review and adaptation	Initial Learning Environment Review. Individual equipment items purchased and in place Increased signage throughout the school
<b>Medium Term</b>	To increase the exploitation of cross-curricular links and teaching	Subject Leaders' meetings to identify links and plan for learning and teaching in each linked area.	Improvement in flexibility of thought for students.	Ongoing with a view to embedding linked practise Sept 2017	Initial links identified on Whole School Curriculum Map.
	To increase the level of support staff knowledge regarding classroom learning techniques, understanding of subject areas and student needs.	Half-termly CPD element to staff Meeting. Lead Teacher classroom observations to identify areas of need in TA practise.	All Teaching Assistants will have an agreed supervision target linked directly to meeting individual educational needs	Ongoing.	All TAs have ½ yearly supervision with Headteacher.

**Physical Improvements to the Environment**

	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Goals Achieved</b>
<b>Short term</b>	Improve access for visually impaired	Replace/fit supplemental lighting generally in conjunction with routine maintenance	Lighting levels improved	Ongoing maintenance	Improved access
	Improved external circulation	Fit additional external lighting	Improved visibility and way finding	Ongoing maintenance	Improved access
<b>Medium Term</b>	Improve vertical circulation	Provide contrasting colour nosings to stairs as part of routine floor covering replacement	Improved visual contrast on stairs for visually impaired	Ongoing maintenance	Improved access
<b>Long Term</b>	Improve vertical and horizontal circulation	Introduce colour contrast	Improved visual contrast generally for visually impaired	Ongoing maintenance	Improved access