



Leigh Academy Strood

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Revision Log

Date	Version no.	Brief detail of change
07/11/2025	4	New LAT Template
29/09/2025	3	Updated action plan and access audit
15/07/2024	2	Action Plan update
16/07/2023	1	Action Plan update

Introduction

This document meets the requirements of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled 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 undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for students with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled student faces in comparison with non-disabled students. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

The Accessibility Plan is listed as a statutory document of the Department for Education's guidance on statutory policies for schools. The Plan must be reviewed every three years and approved by the Governing Body. The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, an individual or the Principal. The current Action Plan will be appended to this document.

Aims

Leigh Academy Strood and Leigh Academies Trust are committed to working together to provide an inspirational and exciting learning environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all students, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional, medical and cultural needs. We are committed to 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 academy.

Our Accessibility Action Plan outlines how access will be enhanced to create an inclusive environment for all students, staff, and visitors. The Action Plan aims to achieve these improvements within a specified timeframe and proactively addresses the need to make reasonable and practical adjustments to accommodate individual needs. The Action Plan contains relevant actions to:

1. Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the academy, adding more specialist facilities as necessary. The academy will take into account the needs of students, parents and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements.
2. Increase access to the curriculum for students with a disability, modifying the curriculum as necessary to ensure that students with a disability are as equally prepared for life as able-bodied students.
3. Improve where necessary the delivery of written information to students, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities.

At Leigh Academy Strood every student currently enrolled is able to access both the physical school environment and full curriculum.

Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

Audits will be undertaken on the physical environment, curriculum and materials. However, It may not be feasible to undertake all of the physical works during the life of this accessibility plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. Leigh Academies Trust Infrastructure

Team will support academy Senior Leaders where appropriate to assist in enabling physical changes required.

Other departments within Leigh Academies Trust will support where appropriate. For example, Marketing with written information, IT with technology adjustments and Curriculum Leads with advice on increased access to learning.

Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

This Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Community Board. Each academy will work in partnership with Leigh Academies Trust in developing and implementing their Accessibility Plan. Actions from the plan will be reviewed and discussed at each academy H&S meeting.

This Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

This Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction the following Trust and Academy policies;

- Equality objectives
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Supporting students with medical needs Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- Staff Development Policy
- Premises Management Policy
- Health & Safety

Leigh Academy Strood - Accessibility Action Plan