



Mabe
Primary School



Accessibility Plan

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School or Trust Policy	School

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Mabe School Disability Access Plan 2022 - 2025

The Disability Access Plan addresses and recognises the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 (Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 AND 2005). The plan identifies work required in order to give all disabled users access to all parts of the building and includes recommendations for required remedial actions, ongoing monitoring and control measures that illustrate good practice in terms of meeting the needs of disabled people.

Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this plan is to show how Mabe School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school. We will continue to improve all aspects of the physical environment of the school site, the curriculum and written information so that all students with a disability can take full advantage of the education and associated opportunities provided by Mabe School.

Definition of disability

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.

Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers for access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

Principles

- Compliance with the DDA is consistent with our school's aims and equal opportunities policy and SEND and Inclusion policies
- The school recognises its duty under the DDA:
 - 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 take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
 - To publish an accessibility plan
- In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice.
- The schools recognise and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality
- The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and

endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum Framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum

- Setting suitable learning challenges
- Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils

Increasing Access for disabled pupils to the school curriculum

This includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits.

Improving teaching and learning lies at the heart of our school. Through self-review and continuous professional development, we aim to enhance staff knowledge, skills and understanding to promote excellent teaching and learning for all children. We aim to meet every child's needs within mixed ability, inclusive classes.

It is a core value of our school that all children are enabled to participate fully in the broader life of the school. Consequently, all children have always been permitted to attend age relevant after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits. The only exception would occur if a child had breached school rules e.g. through aggressive behaviour at a club, when deprivation of club attendance may be used as a suitable short-term sanction and to ensure the safety of other children.

Improving access to the physical environment of the school

This includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.

We have made appropriate changes to the building to meet the needs of the pupils. Provision, in exceptional cases, will be negotiated when the child's specific needs are known.

We have a wide range of equipment and resources suitable for the day-to-day use of children in the age range. The school improvement plan process will consider such needs on an annual basis.

Improving the delivery of written information to disabled pupils

This will include planning to make written information that is normally provided by the school to its pupils available to disabled pupils. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about school events. The information should take account of pupils' disabilities and pupils' and parents preferred formats and be made available within a reasonable time frame.

In planning to make written information available to disabled pupils, we again need to establish the level of current need and be able to respond swiftly to changes in the range of need. For example, it

would be a misuse of finite school resources to commit funding to providing Braille or large print versions of all school materials (identified in italics above) if there are no children on roll who require such access. However, the school will identify agencies and sources of such materials to be able to make provision whenever it is required.

Teachers will always need to be sensitive to presenting materials to children in appropriate formats e.g. reading aloud, overhead projections, should that be necessary. This is a core part of a teacher's work.

Financial Planning and control

The Headteacher, SLT and the governors will review the financial implications of the accessibility plan as part of the normal budget review process.

Mabe School

Mabe School is a co-educational school with approximately 175 children on roll whose ages range from 4 -11 years.

The original school building was built in 1986 with a secondary, extension building constructed in 2017. Across the two buildings the school has six classrooms, each with their own cloakroom area. There is a large hall that is used for PE, assemblies and lunch time. The library is well stocked with lots of books for children to choose from which the children may choose to read.

Outside there are two tarmac playgrounds for KS1 and KS2, a covered and enclosed EYFS outdoor learning area. The large field is used on dry days for playtime and for games lessons. The grounds are well laid out and comprise various raised beds for the children's gardening club. All outdoor areas are accessible, with an alternative ramp/slope being provided where there are steps and gated areas being wide enough for wheelchair users.

There is also an additional building which is our Foundation Stage unit and where our children in Nursery (pre-school) and Reception children are taught. In this building, there is continuous access to the outside area to meet the requirements of Development Matters. There are age appropriate toilet facilities and a separate toilet for the staff. There is a kitchen area at adult height. Children come into the school hall for their lunch, and play outside as a Foundation Unit supervised by known adults.

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 Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023
Approach and Car Parking

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is the building within convenient distance of a public highway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	Is the building within convenient distance of public transport?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Is the building within convenient distance of car parking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Is the route clearly marked/found?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Is the route free of kerbs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Is the surface smooth and slip resistant?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7	Is the route wide enough?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8	Is it free of such hazards as bollards, litter bins, outward opening windows and doors or overhanging projections?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
9	Is it adequately lit?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
10	Is it identified by visual, audible and tactile information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Visual only.
11	Is there car parking for people with reduced mobility?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
12	Is the car parking clearly marked out, signed, easily found and kept free from misuse?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
13	Is the car parking as near the entrance as possible?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
14	Is the car parking suitably surfaced?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
15	Is the route to the building kept free of snow, ice and fallen leaves?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
16	Is the route level? (ie no gradient steeper than 1:20 and no steps)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

General Notes for approach and parking:

- *Very clear markings painted on car park, indicating walkways, direction of traffic, allocated parking etc
- * Clear signage of reception area close to the

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023

Routes and external level change including ramps and steps

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is there a ramp, with level surfaces at top/intermediate/bottom?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Low gradient slopes
2	Is it wide enough and suitably graded?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Is the surface slip resistant?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Are there kerbs and are there edges protected to prevent accidents?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Are there handrails to one or both sides?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not steep enough to require handrail
6	Are there (alternative) steps & ramp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7	Identified by visual/tactile information?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8	Are there handrails to one or both sides?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Both sides of both sets of steps
9	Are ramps and steps adequately lit?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
10	Are treads and risers consistent in depth and height?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
11	Are all nosings marked and/or readily identifiable?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
12	Are landings of adequate size and are they provided at intermediate levels in long flights?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

General Notes for routes and external level change including ramps and steps:

The route to the KS2 play area is sloped and there is a handrail.

The route to the lower KS1 play area is sloped and there is a handrail.

There are no steps leading from the EYFS enclosed area onto the lower KS1 play areas.

*Consider adding signage at top and bottom of both sets of steps, directing user to alternative slope.

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023

Entrances – including Reception

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is the door clearly distinguishable from the façade?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	If glass, is it visible when closed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Does the clear door opening or one leaf when opened permit passage of a wheelchair or double buggy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Does it have a level or flush threshold, and a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Entrance mat sits on top of carpet. Slight raised edge
5	Is there visibility through the doorway from both sides at standing and seated levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Is there a minimum 300mm wide wheelchair manoeuvre space beside the leading edge of the door to clear doorswing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7	Can the door furniture be used at both standing and seated height?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8	Can it be easily grasped and operated?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
9	If the door has a closer mechanism does it have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed closure action? • Slow-action closer? • Minimal closure pressure? 	N/A		
10	If the door is power-operated does it have visual and tactile information?	N/A		
11	If the door is security-protected is the system suitable for use by and within reach of people with sensory or mobility impairments?	N/A		
12	If there is a lobby, do the inner and outer doors meet the same criteria?	N/A		
13	Do lobby layouts enable all users to clear one door before going through the next?	N/A		
14	Are signs designed and positioned to inform those with visual impairments and wheelchair users with reduced eye levels?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
15	Does the lighting installation take account of the needs of visually disabled people?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
16	Are floor spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slip resistant, even when wet? • Of a quality that is sympathetic to acoustics – ie not so ‘hard’ as to cause acoustic confusion? • Firm for wheelchair manoeuvre 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
17	Are junctions between floor surfaces arranged in a way that avoids presenting tripping hazards and causing visual confusion?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

18	Is any reception point suitable for approach and use from both sides by people in standing and seated positions?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
19	Is it fitted with an induction loop?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
20	For those progressing to other parts of the building is information provided by signs, supported by tactile information such as a map or model?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maps of school form part of the fire escape information, located at fire exit signs.

General Notes for entrances including reception:

- *Consider displaying a whole school map of the school in the foyer
- *Consider having signage to head teachers office, disabled toilets etc by the entrance to the school from the foyer

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023
Horizontal Movement and Assembly

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is each corridor/passageway/aisle wide enough for a wheelchair user to manoeuvre and for other people to pass?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	Is each corridor etc. free from obstruction to wheelchair users and from hazards to people with impaired vision?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Do any lobbies allow users (including wheelchair users) to clear one door before approaching the next with minimal manoeuvre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Is turning space available for wheelchair users?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Do natural and artificial lighting avoid glare and silhouetting?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Are there visual clues for orientation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7	Do floor surfaces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow ease of movement for wheelchair users? • Avoid light reflection and sound reverberation? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8	Are direction or information signs (including means of escape) visible from both sitting and standing eye levels, and are they in upper and lower case, and large enough type to be read by those with impaired vision?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
9	Are there tactile signs and information for those with impaired vision?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10	Is the maintenance of these items checked regularly?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
11	Is lighting designed to meet a wide range of needs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
12	Is sufficient circulation space allowed for wheelchair users?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
13	Is it maintained clear of obstructions which could create hazards for people with visual disabilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
14	Are seating arrangements/spaces suitable for use by people with visual disabilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
15	Are all areas for assembly/meeting equipped with an induction loop system?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

General Notes for horizontal movement and assembly:

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 Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023 Doors

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Do the doors serve a functional/safety purpose?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	If glass, are they visible when shut?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Can people standing or sitting in a wheelchair see each other, and be seen from either side of the door?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Does the clear opening width permit wheelchair access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	On the opening side of the door is there sufficient space (300mm) to allow the door handle to be grasped and the door swung past a wheelchair footplate?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Is any door furniture/handle at a height for standing/sitting use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7	Are door/handles clearly distinguished?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8	Can the door furniture/handles be easily operated/grasped?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
9	If door closers/mechanisms are fitted do they provide the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • security linkage? • delay-action closure? • Slow-action closure? • Minimum closure pressure? 	N/A		
10	Is door/mechanism function checked regularly?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

General Notes for doors:

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023

Lavatories

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is WC provision made for people with disabilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	Do all lavatory areas have slip-resistant floors?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Are all fittings readily distinguishable from their background?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Are all door fittings/locks easily gripped and operated?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Can ambulant disabled people manoeuvre and raise and lower themselves in standard cubicles?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Is provision made for wheelchair users in disabled toilets?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
7	Is wheelchair approach free of steps/narrow doors/obstructions etc?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
8	Is the location clearly signed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Signage on doors
9	Is there sufficient space at entry to the compartment for wheelchair manoeuvre and door opening?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
10	Are the door fittings/locks and light switches easily reached and operated?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
11	Is there an emergency call system and is someone designated to respond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
12	Can the emergency call system be operated from floor level?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
13	Is the wheelchair WC compartment large enough to permit manoeuvre for frontal lateral/angled/backward transfer, with or without assistance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
14	Are the fittings arranged to facilitate these manoeuvres	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
15	Are handwashing and drying facilities within reach of someone seated on the WC?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
16	Is the tap appropriate for use by someone with limited dexterity, grip or strength?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
17	Are suitable grab rails fitted in all the appropriate positions to facilitate use of the WC?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
18	Is the manoeuvring area free of obstruction, eg boxed- in pipework/radiators/cleaner's equipment/disposal bins/occasional storage, etc. and is any difficulty caused by the activity of service contractors?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
19	If there is more than one standard layout WC compartment provided, are they handed to offer a left-sided approach and a right-sided approach?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

General Notes for lavatories:

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023

Fixtures and Fittings

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is any server/counter accessible to all users, including those with hearing impairments?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	Is it possible for people with disabilities to serve as volunteers?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Where there are display stands, bookstalls etc. are they visible/reachable/accessible by people with disabilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	In any eating/meeting space do tables, chairs and the layout allow for use by wheelchair users and other people with disabilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	In any staff accommodation is it suitable for use by people with disabilities including wheelchair users with slip-resistant floor, reduced level kitchen units and sink and lever action taps?			N / A
6	Are all relevant locations clearly signed?			N / A

General Notes for fixtures and fittings:

Limited room in Staff Room, chairs can be removed if required

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023
Information

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is the building equipped to provide hearing assistance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	Does lighting installation of the building take into account the needs of people with visual disabilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Are there large-print versions of information about the building/activities available?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	Is there braille information available for people with visual disabilities?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

General Notes for information:

Large print versions and Braille versions of information are not available – to be made available on request

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Access Check List for Mabe School– September 2023

Means of Escape

Consider each question from the perspective of each type of disability:

	Question	Y	N	Action Point
1	Is there a visible as well as audible fire alarm system?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	Are final exit routes as accessible to all, including wheelchair users, as are the entry routes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3	Is there a 'management evacuation strategy' for staff, pupils and visitors, and are staff trained in evacuation procedures?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	Is the evacuation strategy checked regularly for its effectiveness?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
5	Are evacuation routes checked routinely and regularly for freedom from combustible materials/obstacles/locked doors?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
6	Are all fire warning devices and detectors checked routinely and regularly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

General Notes for information:

Appendix B

The accessibility plan shows how access is to be improved for students with disabilities, staff and visitors to the school in a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. Following the audit in Appendix A the key actions are below:-

Key Actions					
Term	Target	Strategy	Outcome	Time Frame	Goal Achieved
Long Term	Large print and brail versions of information to be made available if and when necessary.	Ensure tactile information is provided when necessary. Ensure staff know how to access such materials.		As and when required	

Summary

Mabe School is an accessible school and site.

Actions flagged are long term targets requiring small amounts of expenditure in the purchase or preparation of fixtures, fittings and signage. These actions could be addressed relatively quickly if required.

Reviewed and updated by Hannah Stevens, SLT and LGB June September 2023.