



## **Disability and Accessibility Plan**

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## Kents Hill Park School Disability Access Plan

### **ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS TO DISABILITY ACCESS PLAN**

Written June 2018

Section	Governors' Meeting or Committee
Whole Document	KET Board July 2018
Whole Document	LGB 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2019
Whole Document	LGB 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2020
Whole Document	LGB 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Whole Document	LGB 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Whole Document	LGB 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Whole Document	LGB 29 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Whole Document	LGB 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Whole Document	LGB 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Next review: 2026/2027	

## Kents Hill Park School Disability Access Plan

This Disability Access Plan is prepared in accordance with Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and has regard to the SEND Code of Practice (2015). This plan supports the school's duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations. This Disability Access Plan spans a three-year period (2025–2028) and is reviewed annually.

This Accessibility Plan is published on the school website and available in alternative formats on request

### Disability Access Plan

#### **1 Introduction**

##### 1.1

The community of Kents Hill Park School includes all pupils, all members of staff, parents/guardians and volunteers. Kents Hill Park School is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and fulfilling its duties not to discriminate against, harass or victimise pupils with disabilities. Kents Hill Park School welcomes applications from prospective pupils with or without additional needs, including those with an Education Health Care Plan.

Before offering a place, the school must feel reasonably sure that it will be able to educate and facilitate the development of the prospective pupil to the best of his/her potential and in line with the standards achieved by the pupil's peers. Kents Hill Park School operates an inclusion policy which it believes enriches school life, but the prospective pupil should be able to access the mainstream curriculum at an age appropriate level. Kents Hill Park School will make reasonable adjustments to cater for the needs of applicants while giving equal importance to ensuring that no other pupil's education is impaired.

This is Kents Hill Park School's Disability Access Plan which has three inter-linked elements.

1. Improvements in access to the curriculum by:
  - Providing for all pupils a curriculum which is appropriate to their needs
  - Ensuring that the curriculum is delivered in such a way that all pupils, regardless of any impairment, may benefit fully from it
2. Physical improvements to increase access to education and associated services by:
  - Ensuring that all Kents Hill Park School buildings and grounds are fully accessible to pupils with mobility, sensory and other impairments
  - Providing appropriate educational equipment and physical aids to ensure that educational programmes in Kents Hill Park School can be fully accessed by all pupils
3. Improvements in the provision of information in a range of formats for disabled pupils by:

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- Providing for pupils and their parents/carers, information about Kents Hill Park School and its curriculum in a format that takes account of any disabilities.
- Providing information in accessible formats including large print, coloured overlays, simplified language, audio versions, and digitally accessible formats compliant with DfE accessibility standards.

### 1.2

Kents Hill Park School seeks to achieve a successful fit between Kents Hill Park School and its pupils through its Admissions' Policy.

### 1.3

Before accepting a pupil onto roll, Kents Hill Park School wants to be confident that it can support the prospective pupil and his or her peers in achieving their potential. We are honest with parents about Kents Hill Park School; we ask parents to be honest with us and to be open about any issue relating to their children. We look for children who will thrive at Kents Hill Park School and who will contribute to Kents Hill Park School community, regardless of any perceived or actual difficulty.

### 1.4

Kents Hill Park School's policy is to apply the Admissions' Policy to all pupils, regardless of any disability of which Kents Hill Park School is aware, having made reasonable adjustments to accommodate pupils, parents and visitors with disabilities. 1.5

In determining what is reasonable Kents Hill Park School will have regard to:

- Whether the step would overcome the substantial disadvantage
- The practicality of the adjustment
- Financial implications
- Extent to which the support would be provided under The Equality Act 2010 (Schedule 10) and The Children and Families Act 2014 SEND support.
- The resources of Kents Hill Park School and availability of financial or other assistance
- The effect of the disability on the pupil
- Health and safety requirements
- Need to maintain academic, musical, sporting and other standards
- The interests of other pupils and those who may be admitted to Kents Hill Park School as pupils

### 1.6

Early notification is of great value, as it will enable Kents Hill Park School to liaise with parents, existing schools, or other relevant sources to establish what reasonable adjustments may be made at Kents Hill Park School to support any member of Kents Hill Park School community. Parents or guardians of children with disabilities or additional

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needs are expected to notify Kents Hill Park School of them at the point of registration. If these are not known at the time, Kents Hill Park School should be notified as soon as they are recognised. Prior to any interview or visit, parents will be asked to provide further and more specific details of any additional needs of their child, and to provide copies of any professional reports e.g. Educational Psychologist's report or professional reports from other agencies or an Education Health Care Plan (if applicable).

### 1.7

Kents Hill Park School values all members of its community; all pupils, including those with additional needs, play a full part in its activities, participating in sports, plays, music, camps and trips. Adaptations for a pupil's participation in these activities are provided for through his or her Individual Care Plan (ICP).

### 1.8

As part of the Admissions Process, staff will meet with parents to discuss the prospective pupil's needs and to consider what reasonable adjustments may be required to enable the pupil to access the curriculum and wider school life.

Where appropriate, the school may recommend further assessments to ensure that it fully understands the pupil's needs and can give proper consideration to its obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

The School will carefully consider whether reasonable adjustments can be made to accommodate the prospective pupil without placing a disproportionate burden on the School or fundamentally altering the nature of the education provided.

If, following full consideration, the School concludes that it is unable to meet the pupil's needs through reasonable adjustments and would therefore be unable to discharge its legal duties, it may be unable to offer a place.

### 1.9

Following discussions and appropriate assessment, if Kents Hill Park School is satisfied that, with reasonable adjustments and appropriate support, the prospective pupil can access the education and facilities provided, a place will be offered, subject to the School's admissions criteria and availability. Kents Hill Park School will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and, where applicable, the Children and Families Act 2014. Including, where appropriate, support identified through an EHCP or other external professional involvement.

### 1.10

Most pupils remain at Kents Hill Park School for a number of years. During that time, a pupil may become disabled, or a disability or additional need may be identified. Kents Hill Park School recognises its ongoing duty to make reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled pupils are not placed at a substantial disadvantage. Kents Hill Park School will work in partnership with parents, pupils and, where appropriate, external professionals to identify

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and implement appropriate support to enable full participation in school life. Ongoing communication between all parties is vital to ensure that appropriate support and reasonable adjustments can be identified and implemented.1.11

If a condition develops during the members of the community's career, discussion will be initiated to consider the best means to offer support.

1.12

Lifts, ramps and accessible WCs have been included in the constructions and future developments will take account of access for the physically impaired.

1.13

During the life of this current Disability Access Plan, Kents Hill Park School will continue to improve access to its buildings where necessary. In the shorter term, depending on the age of the pupil, Kents Hill Park School will seek to make adjustments to the timetable in such a way that, with additional support, physically disabled pupils will be able to access the curriculum.

## **2 Admissions**

2.1

Kents Hill Park School's Admissions' and Entry Procedures are detailed in the Admissions' Policy and Entry Procedure, and these are kept under regular review.

2.2

In considering admissions and provision, the School will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010, including the duty to make reasonable adjustments. In determining what is reasonable, the School may consider factors such as the resources available, the practicability of adjustments, and the impact on the education and welfare of other pupils. The School is committed to supporting pupils to participate fully in school life; however, there may be circumstances where the adjustments required would not be reasonable in the context of the School's resources and provision.2.3

**3** At Kents Hill Park School, we recognise the importance of strong home-school partnerships in supporting pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The *SEND Code of Practice* highlights the value of working collaboratively with parents and carers so that concerns can be shared, needs can be understood, and effective school-based provision can be planned and reviewed together.**Adjustments to Kents Hill Park School Buildings and Grounds**

3.1

Kents Hill Park School will plan alterations and adjustments to the premises with regard to this policy.

### **4 Access to Education, Sport, Recreational Activities, Trips and**

#### **Camps**4.1

Individual programmes of support need to be prepared for them and reviewed on a regular basis. Kents Hill Park School will continue to collate up to date information on disability.

#### 4.2

Kents Hill Park School will make any possible reasonable adjustments to lesson and room timetables to ensure all pupils can access the full curriculum.

#### 4.3 *General Inclusion*

The requirements of any pupil with additional needs admitted to Kents Hill Park School will be discussed and plans for the individual will be made. With adaptive teaching in mind, any particular needs will be discussed and consideration given to ensuring the success of the pupil and the rest of the class. Where necessary, work might be made accessible by providing large print versions, coloured overlays, or through technology which reads it aloud.

#### 4.4 *Staff Training*

It is stipulated in the SEN Code of Practice, "All teachers are teachers of children with special educational needs. Fifteen percent of children are deemed likely to have a special educational need at some point in their school career". All teaching staff are expected to have the skills required to teach pupils with additional educational needs and this is supported by a programme of Inset training on learning, medical needs and effective social support strategies. Consideration will be given to suitable training for non-specialist teachers and support staff.

#### 4.5 *Physical Access and Access to Activities Requiring Manual Dexterity* 4.51

When booking an off-site facility Kents Hill Park School will check the accessibility for all members of Kents Hill Park School community. Risk assessments for trips and camps are prepared on a regular basis using Plumsun and take account of the particular needs of disabled pupils.

#### 4.52

Kents Hill Park School will take note of all reasonable requests concerning the needs of participants with disabilities when school facilities are booked by external groups. 4.53

Kents Hill Park School has reviewed escape procedures, door opening and closing mechanisms and highlighted other adaptations to accommodate the needs of disabled people.

#### 4.54

There are disabled car parking spaces all marked clearly close to Reception at both sites.

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4.55

All members of Kents Hill Park School Community with disabilities are supported to participate as fully as they can in all school activities.

### 4.6 *Outside Service Providers*

When educational sessions are run by outside parties, they will be made aware of additional needs where appropriate to do so.

### 4.7 *Trips and Camps*

The needs of all pupils are considered carefully when deciding on camp locations, transport arrangements and whether extra support staff are required. This is part of the risk assessment process.

## **5 Diet and Medication**

5.1

Within the limits of our catering facilities, a number of options are available, and it is possible to accommodate the needs of many on special diets. Where this is not possible, pupils may bring in a packed lunch which may be eaten in designated eating areas with other pupils.

5.2

Kents Hill Park School has appropriate arrangements in place for the administration and monitoring of medication in accordance with written instructions provided by parents, guardians or medical professionals. Medication is stored securely, including refrigerated storage where required. Pupils who feel unwell should inform their class teacher and may attend the medical room for assistance if necessary. Parents and guardians are required to notify the School in writing of any medical condition as soon as possible following diagnosis, so that appropriate care plans, emergency procedures and staff training can be implemented where necessary.

## **6 Welfare**

6.1

Kingsbridge Educational Trust and its antecedent schools have a long tradition of inclusion. Our ethos is of accepting and valuing differences. Our policies support this approach and are in the parent/school contract and our systems of counselling and pastoral care. Disability is specified within Kents Hill Park School anti-bullying policy.

6.2

If parents believe that their child has been unfairly treated due to a disability by Kents Hill Park School they may utilise the published complaints procedure.

### **7 Awareness of Disabled Access Policy**

#### 7.1

Copies of this policy are made available to all teaching staff and those involved in the Admissions' Process. Parents/carers of pupils will be advised of this policy via Kents Hill Park School's website and Kents Hill Park School supplies copies of this policy to all who request it.

#### 7.2

Kents Hill Park School fulfils its duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty by keeping the Disability Access Plan under review and ensuring actions taken advance equality of opportunity for disabled pupils. The SENCO will monitor progress against the actions in this plan termly, and governors will review impact annually. Outcomes and progress will be recorded and reported.

#### 7.3

Those with special needs will be part of the community at Kents Hill Park School for many years; this plan is a mechanism to improve inclusion. Kents Hill Park School is not complacent and is actively working to ensure and improve its accessibility to disabled pupils, parents, staff and the public.

#### 7.4

Kents Hill Park School is always prepared to consider any new issues related to existing or potential members of Kents Hill Park School community.

#### 7.5

The school recognises its anticipatory duty to plan ahead for disabled pupils and will provide auxiliary aids and services (e.g., assistive technology, radio aids, adapted materials) where reasonable

### **8 Kents Hill Park School endeavours to:**

- 8.1 Continue to develop communication with disabled members of Kents Hill Park School community/users
- 8.2 Liaise with specialist staff about the best way to make information available to users
- 8.3 Ensure awareness amongst staff responsible for information relating to pupils/staff and any relevant conditions
- 8.4 Ensure the Evacuation Procedure reflects and accommodates the needs and safety of all staff and pupils
- 8.5 Improve access by measures as outlined in the separate Strategic Plan.

## **Kents Hill Park School Disability Access Plan**

8.6 In line with the SEND Code of Practice, the school works collaboratively with health and social care services to assess, plan and review support for pupils with disabilities

This plan operates alongside Kents Hill Park School's;

Equality Objectives

SEND policy

Admissions Policy

Behaviour Policy

Health and Safety Policy



☎ 01908 533290

✉ [enquiries@kentshillpark.school](mailto:enquiries@kentshillpark.school)

🌐 [www.kentshillpark.school](http://www.kentshillpark.school)

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