

# ILLUMINATE MINDS TRUST

# ACCESSIBILITY PLAN



# **FAIRFORD ACADEMY BARNEHURST**

## **ACCESSIBILITY PLAN**

Fairford Academy is a three form entry school built in the 1950's. It is a fully inclusive school that has an ethos of 'Every Child Matters'.

### **Parking**

There are two disabled bays allocated in the car park. There is sufficient space in the car park for access to entrances and also to accommodate larger forms of transport such as a specialist vehicle, minibus or transport. (The car park can accommodate the number of staff vehicles but visitors to the site cause the car park to be filled to over capacity. (There is then the potential for accidents). Access from the car park to the side door aid accessibility for wheelchair users or adults/pupils with mobility issues.

### **The site**

The school is joined by staircases but access between key stages is manageable by using pathways outside the school. Fairford Academy is an amalgamation of two school sites, a Junior site and an Infant site, with staircases joining the two schools. The Nursery is housed off the infant's section.

For key stage one and nursery classrooms, hall and canteen are accessible on one level, there are no changes in level that would affect either a wheelchair user or someone with walking difficulties. Key stage two is on two levels with limited access to some areas. Classrooms vary in size but overall are below the DCFS guidelines but would be accessible if required. Corridors are generally wide and clear.

Year 6 classrooms situated on the upper floor are accessed via stairs, making it difficult for a child or adult with a mobility difficulty hard to access. Alternative arrangements can be made during such times.

The staffroom is located on an upper floor and can be accessed from the playground via a year 3 classroom which could cause difficulties for a wheelchair user or someone with walking difficulties.

### **Toilets**

There is one disabled toilet, located near the main entrance of the building this serves both adults and pupils. The toilet door has been adapted for those with physical difficulties. Taps have a lever, dryers are used along with push button soap dispenser. Colours do not differentiate between sanitary ware within its environment.

### **Acoustics**

The main building would not meet the current standards for acoustics. However, the classrooms and corridors are carpeted which contributes to the sound proofing. The school has a sound system for use in the hall to improve access to speakers for all users.

### **Visual Impairment**

Adjustment has been made to provide a member of staff with visual impairment with a suitable working environment. The colours are red and cream for the theme used throughout the school. Blocks of colour are used to differentiate between the floor and walls, doors are painted red contrasting with cream or light walls.

When/where required interactive white boards can change font/backgrounds to visually friendly colours.

Blinds are fitted to the large windows in classrooms and halls.

### **Hygiene**

There is a First Aid room located in the key stage one area of the building. The Nursery is equipped with changing facilities to meet the needs of all pupils and has been refurbished with an electric hydraulic changing table to prevent adults from having to lift children onto the changing table.

### **Outside Agencies**

Fairford Academy Barnehurst works closely with a variety of agencies and will seek advice as appropriate to either obtain further training or adapt the building to meet the needs of an individual.

Please note this plan relates to both pupils and adults.

### **Areas for action**

#### **Long term** – as appropriate

- All works to the school will consider and be adapted in line with the Equalities Act 2010 to ensure everyone's needs and requirements are met.

#### **Short Term**

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school's curriculum.
- Improve the physical environment of the school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of education and benefits, facilities or services provided or offered by the school.
- Improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled.

#### **Autumn 2022**

**To be reviewed: Autumn 2025 or earlier in the case of a change to circumstances or school population profile of disabilities.**