

## **Highworth Combined School**

### **Accessibility Policy**

#### **Introduction**

Under the Disability Equality Policy adopted by Highworth Combined School, the school is committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for disabled pupils, staff and all those receiving services from the school.

A disabled person is defined under the Disability Discrimination Act as someone who has a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial or long term adverse impact on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

This policy is designed to ensure the school meets its obligations under the Disability Equality Duty to promote equality of opportunity between disabled people and other people, the elimination of discrimination that is unlawful under the D.D.A., the promotion of positive attitudes towards disabled people, the encouragement of participation in public life by disabled people and action to meet disabled persons needs even if this requires more favourable treatment.

This policy sets out the principles that will be followed in order to ensure Highworth Combined School and Nursery is able to offer a safe environment for learning achievement to those who are visually, hearing or physically impaired, be they pupils, teachers or parents.

The Policy will be renewed annually in the Autumn Term.

#### **General Principles**

Remedial investment action will only be taken as the need arises and this may be mitigated by minor re-organisation of classroom space so that pupils, teachers and parents are not exposed to hazards that would otherwise require significant expenditure.

It is also accepted that some physical impairment may be short term in nature (e.g. broken limbs etc.).

Therefore, a risk assessment will be carried out and a statement prepared for any impaired pupil or teacher already in the school community or about to join the school to ensure all their needs are covered by the appropriate adjustment. The guidance of relevant professionals will be sought.

#### **Hearing Impairment**

All alarms will be visual as well as sound based.

Qualified signers will always be available to children who require support.

**Visual Impairment**

The edges of all external steps on the school premises will be painted yellow as required.

All internal steps will be highlighted by the use of reflective tape.

*Policy revised October 2024*

*Next Review Date: October 2027*