

Barton Junior School Parents' Information

Accessibility information Report

Introduction

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.

Schools already provide for the additional needs of disabled pupils who have special educational needs (SEN). From September 2002, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) outlawed discrimination by schools and LEAs against either current or prospective disabled pupils in their access to education. The new duties build on and complement best inclusive practice.

The DDA, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001, places a duty on all schools and LEAs to plan and increase over time, the accessibility of schools for disabled pupils. To implement this, all schools are required to produce an accessibility plan.

Context:

Barton Junior School is fully compliant with DDA requirements.

- The school is on ground level with easy access.
- The middle entrance into the school has a purpose-built ramp.
- There are no stairs within the school building making it accessible to all. The playground is at ground level, therefore accessible to all.
- There is a disabled toilet area located in the Annexe hall.
- We ensure that equipment used is accessible to all children regardless of their needs.

How does Barton Junior School meet the DDA requirements?

Approaching and entering	
1. Can disabled people park near your premises?	Barton Junior School does not have a car park, however, on street parking is available.

2. Is the entrance easy to find from the street or car park?	There are clear sign posts for the school building and main office from the main entrance.
3. Is the entrance wide enough for all users?	The middle entrance has a wide door which accessible via a purpose-built ramp. There are double doors throughout the school
4. Is the front door at street level?	The main entrance is accessed down a slope from the main road.
5. Is the door easy to open?	The main gate runs through an intercom system and is automatic. The main middle door would be held open when necessary. Door handles are at an acceptable height for all users.

Moving around

6. Is it easy to get around the premises?	The school is on one level with no clutter in corridors' or entrance ways. Separate access to the annex can be gained via the slope in the playground.
7. Is signage clear?	There is clear signage around the school.
8. Is the lighting as good as it could be?	Classrooms have large windows with lots of natural light. Central corridors are well lit and bright. There are minimal reflective surfaces. Outside lights are turned on and are situated all around the outside of the school.
9. Are floors, walls, ceilings and doors easily distinguishable?	The walls are white to distinguish them from the dark blue coloured carpets.
10. Is the fire alarm system and procedure effective?	The fire alarm system is tested regularly, and all staff and pupils know how to respond in an emergency. Pupils with disabilities are assisted.

Using facilities

1. Do your staff know how to support disabled visitors effectively?	Staff always allow more time for visitors. Staff talk directly to the disabled person, not a companion. Notepads are used for exchanging notes when verbal
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	communication is not possible. Blind visitors will be accompanied around the school.
2. Can all visitors access goods and services?	The main reception counter is lowered.
3. Is seating available if necessary?	There are a variety of places disabled visitors can wait or rest including in the main reception. These seats are firm with arm rests. Tables are available so that those in wheel chairs can be seated next to companions.
4. Are WC facilities accessible to all?	There is a disabled toilet in the Annexe building which is accessible from the small playground.
5. Are alternative facilities available if modifications cannot be made?	Home visits can be arranged at the convenience of both staff and disabled visitors.

Actions:

As Barton Junior School is fully compliant with DDA requirements, we currently do not have an action plan in place. We do however regularly check that we are still meeting the requirements and encourage feedback from staff, parents and pupils regarding accessibility issues.

During our building period, we will be continually monitoring and adapting our policy to ensure the school remains accessible to all.