



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Issued: September 2026
Review: Term 1 annually
LST: AWI/CHO

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY & PLAN

1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum

- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with a disability to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided.
- Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with a disability.

Our Trust schools aim to treat all pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

The plan will be made available online on the Trust website, and paper copies are available upon request. The Trust is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues. The Trust supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

The Trust complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#). The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with pupils without a disability. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim: Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability

Current good practice includes:

- Our Trust schools offer a differentiated curriculum for all pupils.
- We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.
- Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.
- Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.
- The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.

Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria	2026 review
Ensure all aspects of the National curriculum have equality of access for disabled pupils– science for example in Primary schools.	Ensure all equipment used (Science, technology, PE, etc) in the curriculum subject teaching allows full accessibility in every school.	AWI	Term 6	All pupils regardless of their disability are able to take part fully in learning across all NC subjects.	All pupils access the full curriculum in all schools and are able to use all specialist facilities.
Ensure all pupils regardless of any physical impairment are able to complete standardised assessments	Make adjustments to time allocation, give rest breaks, etc for non-statutory tests/assessments for those children that need additional support to be successful.	AWI	Term 6	PD children and others with impairment perform at least at expected level in assessments	Pupils with a disability performed better than national averages across all schools. All pupils with a disability have been given rest breaks and additional time where required to complete examinations successfully. SEND Pupils perform at twice the national rate in most examinations.
Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities.	Ensure exemplars used and training for staff show children and adults with a disability	AWI	Term 6	People with disabilities are part of school life in all its facets including curriculum materials to show diversity.	Subject materials and printed resources show diversity

Aim: Improve and maintain access to the physical environment

Current good practice includes:

The environment of each school in the Trust is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. This includes:

- Ramps
- Elevators
- Corridor width
- Disabled parking bays
- Disabled toilets and changing facilities
- Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height

Summary of Actions taken within individual schools - First and Primary

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Clutton	• Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	• New ramps around the school to pods -
Dundry	•	SNE - Head of Estates		• New ramps to temp classrooms - Ramps repaired and due for replacement. • Improved steps for visually impaired - • Improve access to hall - remove steps and install new access to reception class -
Farrington Gurney	•	SNE - Head of Estates		• Improved access to the Reading Hub through installation of ramp - New building on site.
Hemington	• Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	• Improve access to play equipment for wheelchairs
High Littleton	• Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	• Install a new classroom with disabled access. • Chair Lift - available as required
Leigh on Mendip	• Ramp accessed over grassed area - new path to be installed.	SNE - Head of Estates	Work planned for May 2026	• Improve access and to main building including door widening

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Longvernal	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Improve access to reception area and school site through new building and new paving
Midsomer Norton Primary	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Set up a Resource Base for pupils with SPLD.
Minehead First				
Norton Hill Primary	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
Old Cleeve First				
Peasedown	Braille signage installed for visually impaired pupil.	SNE - Head of Estates		- Alter rooming to ensure all classrooms used are on ground floor - Repair existing powered doors
Shoscombe	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Improve toilets for children with SEND through enlargement of facilities to enhance access.
St John's	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	- Improve paving in EYFS are to remove uneven surfaces - New nursery to have full ramp access
St Julian's	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Improve signage for disabled visitors.
St Mary's	- Install ramp to nursery - not done - Ramps required throughout the building to allow access for wheel-chair user.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review June 2026	

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
St Michael's First				
St Peter's First				
Trinity Primary	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
Trinity First	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
Welton	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Improved access to nursery to allow wheelchairs and those who are visually impaired to access EYFS area for Reception children.
Westfield	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Additional barrier added to preserve disabled parking bays for use by blue badge holders.

Summary of Actions taken within individual schools - Middle and Secondary

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Ansford	- Some existing ramps are too steep and need replacing. - Upper floor classrooms not accessible to wheel-chair users. Rerooming and adjustments made dependent on needs. - Ramps in place for side entrance. Main school access ramp needed.	SNE - Head of Estates	Work planned for Easter half term	

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Beechen Cliff	- Rerooming in place to accommodate wheel-chair users - Portable ramp in place for visitors. - Additional portable ramps to be purchased.	SNE - Head of Estates	TBC	- Portable ramps for disabled parents purchased. - Ramp to access science
Buckler's Mead	All remaps replaced. Partially completed. Additional ramps to be reviewed.	SNE - Head of Estates	Work planned for May half term	- Improved markings and colours to be painted on the floor of sports hall for those with visual impairment. - New canteen area with improved access for wheel-chair users.
Danesfield Middle				
Hayesfield	- Alterations to the Brougham Hayes campus to make main reception accessible - Completed. - Wooden ramp to be replaced with permanent ramp	SNE - Head of Estates	Work planned for September	- New wheel-chair drop curbs in place on the school site. - Stair lift installed for some areas to give access to rooms on the second floor. - Installation of a fully accessible staff toilet and student toilet on the Brougham Hayes campus.
Minehead Middle				
Norton Hill	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	New Technology area with enhanced access.
Oakfield Middle	Ramps, with rails to be installed where possible. Survey of defunct lift to be undertaken.	SNE - Head of Estates	Work planned for June 2026	
Preston	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	AstroTurf to have disabled access for pupil and community use.
Pyrland				
Selwood Middle				

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Somervale	Main entrance allows accessibility to all ground floor areas. Side entrances ramps to be reviewed.	SNE - Head of Estates	Work planned Easter half term	- Resurfacing of drainage areas to reduce uneven paths - Yellow paint applied to stair edges and pillars in school.
Somerset Studio	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
St Dunstan's	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Disabled access for new toilets.
St Mark's	- Additional parking for blue badge holders - pending subject to future car park extension.Ramp to main entrance and meeting areas in place. - Use of colour/reflective markers in corridors/paths for visually impaired pupils in place.	SNE - Head of Estates	Investigation ongoing	New paving to Orchard Lodge.
Writhlington	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
Critchill	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	New therapy garden with wheel chair access
Knowle	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
Notton House	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Level door-ways throughout school for wheelchair access

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Soundwell	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
St Matthias	- Brentry - Defunct lift to be reviewed - Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Quote being obtained for lift	Fishponds - Enhanced access to Fishponds site with ramps

Summary of Actions taken within individual schools - Special / AP

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
Critchill	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	New therapy garden with wheel chair access
Knowle	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
Notton House	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	Level door-ways throughout school for wheelchair access
Soundwell	Good accessibility for current students. staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.	SNE - Head of Estates	Review with intake	
St Matthias	Brentry - Defunct lift to be reviewed	SNE - Head of Estates	Quote being obtained for lift	Fishponds - Enhanced access to Fishponds site with ramps

School	Aims / Objectives	Person responsible	Timeline	Summary of Actions taken
	Good accessibility for current students, staff and visitors. Subject to review with new pupil intakes.			

Aim: Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability

Current good practice includes:

Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:

- Internal signage
- Large print resources
- Braille
- Induction loops
- Hazard paint on stairs
- Pictorial or symbolic representations

Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria	2025 review
Improve further signage and markings to show those who need additional support access routes, designated parking areas, etc.	New signage to be developed on a school-by-school basis.	AWI	Term 6	All visitors are clear about provision for people with physical impairment	

4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every year – during Term 1, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by The Academy Trust Board annually.

5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy