



## **The Disability Discrimination Act Access Policy**

**FEBRUARY 2026**

**(to be reviewed FEBRUARY 2027)**

The Acorns School is committed to equality of opportunity and is keen to promote a learning and working environment that is inclusive, celebrates diversity and does not discriminate against any group.

<b>Statement of Need</b>	<b>Current Provision</b>
Accessibility:	
Wheelchair access.	All examinations carried out in a single storey building with disabled access. All doorways in this building are wide enough to allow easy access for wheelchair users.
Accommodation:	
Exam rooms should be located close to an adapted toilet.  Facilities should be in place to open the door from the outside in an emergency	The disabled toilets are located between the two exam rooms providing basic welfare facilities.  Disabled toilets are accessible from the outside in case of an emergency.
Emergency Evacuation:	

Ensure that both disabled candidates and staff are aware of the emergency evacuation procedures to ensure that disabled candidates can be safely evacuated from the building whatever their disability or impairment.	<p>We comply with the school procedure for Emergency Evacuation. Both rooms are equipped with Fire doors leading to the outside of the building.</p> <p>Invigilators are made aware of any specific evacuation procedures in place for a student with a disability.</p> <p>Invigilators ensure that all candidates are aware of the evacuation procedures at the beginning of each exam.</p> <p>Where we have prior knowledge of a mobility issue, we would make evacuation arrangements according to the individual's needs. Candidates who use a wheelchair would be located close to the door to allow them to easily enter and leave the examination room.</p>
Seating:	
<p>Ensure that seating is appropriate and comfortable for those who may have a disability that affects seating and posture.</p> <p>Ensure candidates who may become unwell are able to leave the room causing minimum disruption.</p>	<p>Seating is provided according to the individuals' requirements.</p> <p>Candidates who may need to leave the room during the exam due to the nature of their disability will be situated close to the exit.</p>
Signage:	
Ensure signs are reasonably sized, easily understood and where necessary, combine text, arrows, pictorial symbols & Braille.	The Acorns School assess individual need and appropriate arrangements are put in place to ensure information is accessible.
Resources:	

Where computers are necessary for an examination, ensure that hardware and software have been properly adapted and tested for those who may use them.	Access arrangements will be put in place according to an individual's needs. Adapted keyboards, large screens and any appropriate software programmes will be made available as necessary.
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## **The Acorns School Examinations Access Statement**

As far as is reasonably practicable, The Acorns School will ensure:

- Lighting is appropriate for candidates
- Premises will meet legal and DDA requirements
- Adapted facilities are provided as necessary
- The needs of all students will be considered in the event of an emergency evacuation
- Evacuation procedures will be provided at the beginning of each exam
- Appropriate seating will be arranged in line with the candidate's needs
- Access arrangements will be applied for and put in place according to the individuals needs and with the agreement of the Awarding Body. All the necessary paperwork and qualifying evidence to support pupils who are already in receipt of Access Arrangements on entry to Larches High School should be provided by the previous school and forwarded to Larches High School prior to any examination series.