



Unsworth Academy Accessibility Plan 2023/2024

Unsworth Academy is now a barrier free establishment. The new main building provides easy accessibility around the school including the establishment of ramps to the ground floors entrances and disabled parking spaces close to the school entrance. A lift is available to facilitate the movement of wheelchair users to the 1st and 2nd floor. Easy access to the sports hall complex is also available and there is ramp access to our Modular Building.

How disabled persons have been involved in the creation of this accessibility plan

Disabled Learners:

At Unsworth Academy we have identified our disabled learners by writing to all parents/carers asking them to assess their child against the 'definition of disability' and inform the Principal if they consider them disabled. The SENCo has identified all SEND learners.

We have organised individual interviews for disabled learners with a Pastoral Leader and/or the SENCo to ensure that we listen to their views in an informal setting. Person Centred planning and reviewing processes with learners who are in receipt of statements of SEND or EHC plans ensure their views are heard and acted upon. The key issues raised were:

- Certain colours of pens are helpful for some learners – brown, black & blue are good while other colours are not as easy to read on a white board – yellow, red, green and purple.
- A quiet area for sitting examinations: this is available for those learners who express a preference.
- Seating plans in classrooms: some learners benefit from sitting in a particular position in the classroom e.g HI/VI
- The use of coloured paper, pastel smart board background or coloured overlays for learners with expressed preferences.

Disabled Staff

We will contact all staff in January 2024 to ask them to assess themselves against the 'definition of disability' and inform the Principal if they consider themselves disabled.

At present, 3% of staff are identified as disabled. There are reasonable adjustments made to enable them to carry out their roles at Unsworth Academy.

Disabled Parents/Carers

We will contact all parents and carers in January 2024 to ask them to assess themselves against the 'definition of disability' and inform the Principal if they consider themselves disabled. In the past phone conversations have been held with those parents/carers to identify any barriers that had affect and how we can plan to overcome them. The key issues raised were:

- the need to provide reports in larger print for visually impaired parents/carers
- the need to provide reserved seating near the front for disabled parents/carers at school functions
- the offer of telephone consultations as an alternative to attendance at Parents' Evenings for disabled parents/carers.
- Provision of a sign interpreter for hearing impaired parents/carers at school functions



Key Issue/ Area for Development	Proposed Action	Who is responsible	Timescale	Success Criteria	Resource Implications	Staff Development Implications
Learning needs of disabled learners	Ensure that all teachers are aware of disabled learners in class and of reasonable adjustments that they need to make, e.g. seating	SENCo/ Pastoral Leaders/ HOD's	Reviewed every term	Disabled learners are given optimum chance to succeed in learning	Staff time to inform themselves and others of individual learner needs.	PAD Training for all staff in VI, HI, ADHD & Autistic MLD
Meals provision for learners with medical needs	Ensure Canteen Manger is aware of specific needs re meals provision	Pastoral Leaders /Operations Manager/ Catering Manager	Daily	Learners with medical conditions are able to buy appropriate meals from the canteen.	Awareness of allergies, e.g. nut, etc	n/a
Alternative provision for consultation with teachers	Offer disabled parents the alternative of telephone consultation rather than attending Parents' Evening.	Pastoral Leaders/ HOD's / HOP's	Reviewed every term	Disabled parents receive feedback about their child without having to come into school	Staff time	Telephone Coaching
Accessibility for disabled Parents/carers	Provide wheelchair access to the main hall and leave adequate space within the seating for performances.	All Staff/Operations Manager	Reviewed every term	Disabled parents are able to attend the school for Parents evenings, School productions etc.	Operations Manager planning and Caretaker time	Increase awareness to all staff



Exam accessibility arrangements	Ensure all disabled learners have their accessibility arrangements agreed with the examination boards. Provide a quiet exam area for disabled learners in need of special arrangements	SENCo/ Exams Officer	Yearly	Learners have correct amount of time, appropriate support and best chances of success	Costs for support staff and use of the lecture theatre during exam periods.	SEN training for new members of staff.
Improve lighting for the VI learners	Ensure all fire doors are held magnetically, creating a clear light view along the corridor. Also, that corridors are lit to a maximum level.	Staff/ Ops Manager/ Caretakers	Daily inspections	No incidents during movement around school.	Repair/ Maintenance	n/a
Primary Liaison for future needs	Assess the needs of our new year 7 learners, whilst at primary school.	Pastoral Leader/Assist ant SENCo	Yearly	Enables smooth transition for Primary to Secondary	Staff Time	n/a.



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