

Oak Bank School

Accessibility Plan



Prepared by	Approved by	Date Approved	GB/ Committee	Review Period	Next Review
RF	PC	Mar 19	SLT	3 Years	Mar 24

Introduction

Oak Bank is a Special School Outstanding Learning Community that offers education for pupils aged 9- 18 with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH).

All students have an Education Health & Care Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Need. The school caters for students from Central Bedfordshire and neighbouring authorities and the pupils come from a variety of social and economic backgrounds.

The students are predominantly white British.

We believe that this Accessibility Plan is compliant with current legislation; the Equality Act 2010.

School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a 3-year period.

Accessibility Plan Vision

Oak Bank School is accessible, inclusive and has close links to the local community. The curriculum provides challenging and stimulating learning experiences, with realistic yet high expectations of standards, progress and achievement for all.

Oak Bank School will enable students to:

- Make appropriate decisions and choices.
- Build effective relationships.
- Prepare themselves for the challenges of independent living and change.
- Develop a positive self-image and awareness of their rights and responsibilities.
- Be active participants in their learning.
- Learn to be effective communicators.
- Enhance their social understanding and the skills of citizenship.
- Manage their own behaviour appropriately.
- Enjoy life.
- Experience and learn about British values
- Experience a range of activities to develop their social, moral, cultural and spiritual understanding.

Access and School Policy and Procedures

We adhere to the Equality Act of 2010 throughout all our policies and practice to ensure students access learning and the school environment.

Access to the Curriculum

We provide a differentiated and personalised curriculum that includes extensive access to an External Provision programme that prepares pupils for life in the workplace.

We ensure all students can access activities that we offer and adaptations to equipment and activities are made to fulfil this aim. For students to access the curriculum lessons are highly differentiated and take account of individual learning needs. Priority is placed on student participation, as independently as is possible.

Adults are clear about the learning objectives of the lesson, class and individuals.

Access to Wellbeing services

Our team of Wellbeing mentors work with staff and students to ensure the needs of students are met. All students have access to staff should they need it via a referral system. The school has a Clinical Psychologist who supports with the delivery of 1:1 programmes as well as with assessments for students and referrals to professionals.

Access to the School Environment

A four classroom block was built in September 2016 that had two purpose built, specialist science laboratories as well as two new maths classrooms. The science labs have an observation room built to support the observations of students (under written agreement) where necessary.

The outdoor environment is also fully accessible with an accessible bike track, MUGA space and field. There is also an animal care facility accessible to all.

The school will have a fully equipped Sports Hall and construction area.

The school will take account of the needs of students and visitors with physical difficulties when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

Access to Information

All information issued by the school aims to be user friendly- this includes the website, letters, emails and other forms of communication such as on social media platforms.

We encourage parents and professionals to take up the offer of having communications sent to them electronically as a way of reducing our carbon footprint. The school will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Associated policies and plans This plan should be read in conjunction with other relevant documents including: SEN Information report, Equality Policy