

Egerton Rothesay School
Accessibility Plan
February 2014

The Aims of the Plan

ERS aims to fulfil its duties under the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA) and Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 by seeking, whenever possible, to take the opportunity to meet the following aims:

- To increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the school curriculum
- To improve the physical environment of the school for the purpose of increasing the extent to which disabled pupils are able to take advantage of the education and benefits, facilities and services provided or offered by the school
- To improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is readily accessible to pupils who are not disabled

The Physical Environment

The main school building dates from the 1960s and was first used as an LEA middle school, catering for pupils aged 9-13. The school was purchased by Egerton Rothesay in 1988. Whilst a large part of the buildings can be accessed from ground level, a part of it is built over two floors. Although internal improvements and alterations have been made to the internal building over the years, it remains the case that several of the rooms can only be accessed by stairs.

A number of other buildings have since been added to the site. A portacabin houses rooms for specialist teaching, 2 further portable cabins provide room for music teaching. In January 2009 a new building was opened. This accommodates the youngest children in the school and is compliant with legislation regarding accessibility. A further two storey building was added in 2010, the ground floor of which is fully accessible.

Developments since February 2012

- Continuation of daily briefings to address current issues and raise awareness of individual pupil needs
- Continuation and development of meetings to raise awareness of pupils' different learning styles
- Medical and Accessibility Team (MAT) meets half termly with remit to monitor and develop accessibility throughout the school.
- Levelling work to front pathway to ensure greater accessibility
- New external ramp to allow improved drainage and levelled access via outside PE door
- Improved access to Meeting Rooms
- Positioning of moveable furniture when in use in dining areas now allows improved access through double doors
- Art Room/ DT Room thoroughfare continues to be used: doors are monitored regularly to ensure there are no obstructions
- Disabled parking areas identified by signage at front of school and front of Woods building
- Anti-slip strips put down on decking around Woods and Cedars buildings.
- Personal Accessibility Plans are used for any pupil who has mobility difficulties, including those whose disability is temporary.

Short-term Plans

Aspect	Summary of Action	Completion
Main Entrance	Step up – metal ramps could be used. Set of ramps required and left in entrance area. Purchase new ramps £400.	July 14
Medical Room	Since February 2012 the room has been partly refurbished. Plans have been developed to include a shower facility. £7000 Purchase a more robust wheelchair for use around the school. £100	July 14 July 14
Upstairs	There is no facility for wheelchair user to access first floor classrooms. Arrangements to be included in Personal Accessibility Plan. Seek opportunity to improve access. £2,500.	July 14
Entrances	Some mat wells to be raised so mats sit flush with floor. Worst areas currently by Art room, in Art room and by DT room. Portable ramps are available for courtyard entrances. In Art Room- fill in mat well (door not used for access).£200 By art room, by DT room- replace mats and ensure they lie flush with floor. £300 PE door, main back entrance, front door, staff room Short term- assess hazard termly- £0	July 14 July 14 Ongoing
Entrances	All remaining hazardous mats to be replaced	September 14
Kerb	No level access on route at front of school between Grove and Staff room across the delivery bay. Install dropped kerbs on either side of bay. £800	February 15

Medium-term Plans

Aspect	Summary of Action	Completion
Accessible Toilets	Accessible Toilets only in Woods and Cedars: Create new accessible toilet in downstairs back corridor £6000	September 15
Music Cabins	Access not good. Wooden pallets at threshold to cabins. Install ramp to each door to provide level access to cabins £2000	September 15
Main Back Door	Steep slope and step to door from playground. Concrete ramp to provide level access	September 15

Long-term Plans/ Aspirational

Aspect	Summary of Action	Completion
Main Entrance:	Relay path to compliant gradient to provide level access to main entrance (drainage implications) £3000	As funding becomes available
Pathway	New Pathway to avoid steps at back of school. Currently level access between music cabin area and The Woods is only via front of school. New Path £7000	As funding becomes available
Doorways	Ensure all new construction enables full access when possible. Take opportunities as they arise when altering the internal layout of the school.	ongoing
School Policies and Practices	Ensure new and revised policies are consistent with increasing accessibility when possible and appropriate	ongoing

Entrances	Level path and access through entrances to link courtyard doors	As funding becomes available
Accessible Toilets	Seek opportunity to increase number of accessible toilets	ongoing
Medical Room	Access across courtyard to medical room is available and useable as Concrete Ramps are built in (but not compliant). Create compliant pathway. £10000	As funding becomes available
Home Economics	Restricted access from back of school. Wheelchair users are encouraged to use door at Reception end of room as part of their personal accessibility plan. To be monitored on ongoing basis. Seek opportunity to improve access.	As opportunity/ funding becomes available
Cedars	Bell too high for wheelchair user if unaccompanied. To be monitored on ongoing basis.	Ongoing