

# **Egerton Rothesay School**

## **Accessibility Plan**

### **The Aims of the Plan**

ERS aims to fulfil its duties under the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2014 (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 and ensure it is as least equal to those without a disability.
- 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. This will include funding to provide essential, relevant and suitable adapted educational equipment, fixtures and fittings, teaching support, and any other adaptation to enable expected progress in school at least equal to a pupil without a disability.

ERS understands that not all barriers to learning may be physical. Access to the curriculum is risk assessed and detailed in the pupil's Individual Education Plan.

### **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. In January 2008 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. In 2016 we acquired two further modular buildings one houses rooms for specialist teaching, the second is an additional classroom for years 1 -6, and sixth form we also have 3 portable cabins provide room for music teaching, SEN and Admin support.

### **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 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.
- Ramps have been purchased for access by front door.
- Purchased wheel chair for medical room and defibrillator in reception.
- Evacuation chair purchased situated at top of main staircase.
- Music cabins have been relocated with access from bottom playground and ramp path for access.
- All mat wells mats have been replaced.
- Poplar Library. Changed in to Therapy rooms.
- Medical room. New shower, and extension of facilities including changes to doors. One door now fire escape.
- Access to woods building with new path from pedestrian gate.
- Pathway and fencing for better access to land base studies area.
- Art wells filled in Art room and DT room.
- Completed back fence for security closing off neighbours back gates.
- External covered walkway erected Between lower playground doors.
- Covered decking outside on Cedars area with artificial grass.
- Pathway extended around the Woods building.
- Steps down from the woods building now been replaced in concrete.
- New extended concrete play area at side of tennis courts. This is to enable future building works.

### Short-term Plans

Aspect	Summary of Action	Completion
Medical Room	Access across courtyard to medical room is available and useable as Concrete Ramps are built in (but not compliant).	October 19
New Building to rear of Medical room	Four classroom block to facilitate additional sixth form classes. Plus three small music rooms	October 19
Changes to Changing rooms	Refurbish changing rooms. Divide boys changing room into two.  Showers turned into two individual cubicals in boys and girls.	October 19
New Office area	Office to be built under front entrance stairs.	October 19

### Medium-term Plans

Aspect	Summary of Action	Completion
New Classroom Block	New build added to front of school by English department	September 20
Accessible Toilets	Accessible Toilets only in Woods/Cedars and new SEN building: Create new accessible toilet in downstairs back corridor £6000	September 21
Main Back Door	Steep slope and step to door from playground. Concrete ramp to provide level access	September 21

### 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/or change in facilities
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/or change in facilities
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/or change in facilities
Accessible	Seek opportunity to increase number of accessible toilets	ongoing

Toilets		
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 funding becomes available/or change in facilities
Cedars	Bell too high for wheelchair user if unaccompanied. To be monitored on ongoing basis.	Ongoing
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.	As funding becomes available/or change in facilities.
Main Entrance	Electronic gates at front of school.	As funding becomes available/or change in facilities.