



**THE COMPLETE  
EDUCATION SOLUTION**

**EAST LONDON**

# ***East London Accessibility Plan***

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas Keaney'.

Thomas Keaney, CEO and Schools' Proprietor

**Date of next formal review, August 2022**

This policy applies to all The Complete Education Solution (TCES) schools and services

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## Principles

At TCES East London, our mission is:

*To educate, inspire and support children and young people through a creative process which promotes positive growth and change.*

*To remove barriers to learning in order that children and young people can enjoy school and are encouraged towards lifelong learning.*

*To specifically target social, emotional and behavioural skills and educational progress in order that all children and young people achieve their full potential.*

Based on this principle we shall make every reasonable adjustment to ensure that pupils and stakeholders are able to access all areas of school life irrespective of any special needs or disabilities that they might have.

We recognise that inclusion is everyone's responsibility within the school not just those members of staff who have specific responsibility in that area.

## Accessibility Plan

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (c 50) (informally, and hereafter, the DDA) is an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom which has now been repealed and replaced by the Equality Act 2010

To be clear about how the Equality Act 2010 is implemented in EL, there is a section on each of the main aspects of school.

EL will always ensure:

- that disabled people are actively involved in developing the scheme
- not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions, exclusions and provision of education and associated services.
- to take account of people's disabilities (even if this means treating them more favourably)
- to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- provision of resources to enable access to the curriculum for all pupils.
- that staff are trained and informed about the effective education of pupils with Disabilities
- to review the Accessibility Plan annually and publish the Accessibility Action Plan every 3 years.

The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:

- setting suitable learning challenges
- responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals

## **Dialogue**

At EL we believe that the only way to ensure the best for all pupils is to have an effective three-way dialogue between the school, the pupil and the parents/ carers. This is essential when addressing accessibility of pupils with medical needs, disability or any other complex needs.

If a pupil or a parent/ carer needs information provided in a different format to the usual methods this can be arranged on a case by case basis through the Inclusion Manager such as:

- in Braille
- in large print
- on audio-tape
- through sign language

## **Impact Assessment**

We will assess and prioritise the impact or likely impact of all existing and new policies and practices on disabled people.

## **Consultation with Local Authorities**

All our pupils are referred to us by Local Authorities and we encourage SEN Officers, Educational Psychologists, Connexions PAs and Social Workers to attend Annual Education Reviews. We hold Looked After Children Reviews to encourage closer working with interested parties.

## **Transition/ entry into EL**

EL carries out a rigorous programme to ensure a smooth transition for pupils on entry to the school. If a pupil has identified needs before admission, then these are assessed, and extra support is put in place. If staff need to adjust their teaching to reflect a disability then this will be implemented, with appropriate training as necessary.

## **Access to buildings**

There is currently access for the disabled to the ground floor area of the school. Whilst there is no access to certain areas for those with reduced mobility ie the first floor, we would make

rooming adjustments to cater for any such issues that may arise. We have a disabled access toilet for the use of pupils, parents/ carers or any visitor on the ground floor.

If a learner has accessibility issues to any area of the school, we would look at what reasonable adjustments can be made to ensure access to the curriculum. With this in mind, all subject specific classrooms are located on the ground floor, as is the main hall/dining area.

### **Physical Environment**

At EL we recognise that in addition to ensuring reasonable alterations to the school site regarding accessibility, we also have a duty to ensure a work environment conducive to all learners. We will ensure good signage across the school to improve accessibility for hearing impaired pupils and parents.

### **Lessons and curriculum**

The focus of school is the education that takes place in lessons. Primarily it is the classroom teacher who, working with any teaching assistant, ensures all pupils can access the curriculum.

Differentiation is the primary means to ensure all pupils can access the curriculum. Differentiation is based on various sources of information. In the case of specific disabilities or medical needs it would be based on the needs outlined in a statement. If a pupil does not have a statement it would be based on whatever information the classroom teacher has available including their own evaluation of the ability of an individual pupil.

Specific technology will be available to all pupils with specific disabilities such as:

- Alpha Smarts
- PC notebooks
- Wordshark/ Numbershark
- Touch typing

In addition, interactive whiteboards in lessons improve accessibility to the curriculum for all pupils and in particular those with certain learning needs.

### **Behaviour for Learning**

The policy should be read in association with the Behaviour policy. Although the expectations of conduct apply to everyone, we do recognise that if someone has an identified need, that means they are sometimes unable to follow expectations, we take this into account when addressing any behavioural issues.

## **Adjustments to Curriculum**

If a pupil's needs involve an adjustment to the curriculum pupils normally take part in, then this is something we would be happy to implement. Such changes might involve a reduction in timetable due to certain medical or emotional needs. A pupil may be educated part of the time in the classroom and part of the time receiving 1-2-1 or small group tuition. A pupil may spend a part of their time being educated in a different institution, perhaps in a vocational environment.

Changes to classroom organisation may need to be implemented for pupils.

## **Assessment**

Regular assessments are undertaken to identify individual pupils' abilities in National Curriculum English, Maths and Science. Many pupils will go on to take GCSEs or Entry Level courses in these subjects and will have external assessment and moderation of coursework.

## **Medical Needs**

The Inclusion Manager will ensure that important information of pupils' medical needs are accessible to staff so they are aware of issues that might occur in lessons and around school.

Photographs of pupils with dangerous medical conditions will be easily accessible to staff only in a lockable cabinet in the Admin Office, with pertinent details of those pupils and their condition. This is to ensure that staff are aware of any potentially life-threatening health risks and will be done with consultation with parents/ carers and the pupil.

It is the responsibility of the SENCO and Pastoral Care Coordinator to maintain this information.

## **Health & Safety**

We ensure all staff are aware of evacuation procedures and know what procedures are in place for those with a disability, for those who may need assistance to leave the building. Those individuals will have a bespoke evacuation plan created for them which would remain with them, and a copy kept in the Fire Folder.

## **Equal Opportunities**

We aim to:

- create a culture and environment for pupils, staff, family members and all others with whom we come into contact, such as colleagues from partnership organisations, to be treated fairly, sensitively and in an equal manner regardless of race, ethnic origin, nationality, gender, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, identity or transgender issues, marital or parental status, political belief or social/economic group;

- be aware of the particular needs of children and young people that may arise from the above and to respond appropriately.

### **Additional policies**

The Accessibility Action Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Diversity and Equal Opportunities policy
- Admissions policy and procedure
- SEND policy
- Curriculum guarantee

### **Getting hold of the School's plan**

The Accessibility Plan and Action Plan are available in the school. If parents/ carers require copies, they can contact the School Administrator on 020 8555 6737 who will send these out.

## **East London Accessibility Action Plan 2019-22**

		Objective	Strategy	Who	When	Success criteria
Regularly	1	Provide all staff with information on disabled pupils and strategies to use/ adjustments to make	At start of the academic year all staff reminded about location of details for disabled pupils. Also, a reminder issued for new staff and if there are new pupils.	SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator	Annually or when new pupils/ staff arrive	Complete awareness by staff who come into contact with pupils
	2	Provide teaching staff with specific information on disabled pupils with whom they are working	A pen portrait for each pupil will be devised/ updated at the start of each academic year and this will outline any disabilities that staff need to be aware of. Training to be provided where required.	SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator	Ongoing and as needs arise	Confidence/ expertise in delivery so that access is ensured.
Annually (at least)	3	Ensure all parents of disabled pupils are engaged in partnership approach to their child's needs	Annual review and at transfer have meeting with the Headteacher and Inclusion Manager	Headteacher/ SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator	Ongoing	Close working relationship between
Termly	4	All pupils to be individually consulted about their needs and areas of difficulty	Regular pupil discussion with teacher, and teacher to liaise with Headteacher and Inclusion Manager, Inclusion Manager to liaise with Facilities department and SMT as needed.	Teacher/ Headteacher/ SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator / SMT	Ongoing	Pupil feels that views and needs are listened to and acted on.
Termly	5	Disabled pupils to have an input to school policy and practice	Have a disabled pupils' group to advise the school on areas of concern and difficulty for disabled pupils.	SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator	When applicable	Pupil feels that views and needs are listened to and acted on.
As needed	6	Ensure disabled stakeholders are able to fully take part in school activities	Offer Braille, signing or other reasonable services on a needs basis for parents at specific events if requested.	SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator	When applicable	Stakeholders are better able to take a full part in school activities
Annually	7	Review of existing and new policies, especially Learning and Teaching policy and Recruitment policy	To assess impact and prioritise impact or likely impact	School Business Manager	Ongoing	Required amendments made promptly to policies as required.
	8	Review Accessibility Action Plan	Operational Board to assess impact	Ops Board	Every two years	Ops board to review, amend



			and prioritise actions	Meeting Agenda item	in review of Accessibility Plan	and distribute revised Accessibility Plan
9	Monitor the ongoing implementation of the Equality Act	Establish Consultation Forum made up of SMT, staff, parents and pupils		Headteacher/ SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator	As required	a) as part of our parents/ carer forum on our website, ensure that disability is always on the agenda b) ensure that parent/ carer feedback forms provide an opportunity to comment on Equality
10	Make appropriate adjustments to the Action Plan	Carry out an interim review and evaluation of the effectiveness of the Action Plan		Ops Board in consultation with the School SLT	At Monthly MDG	Ensure that Action Plan is discussed monthly and revised on an annual basis.
11	Establish mechanism for collecting data on pupils, staff and parents who may have disabilities and consider how data can be used effectively to ensure that pupils, staff and parents who may have disabilities are not disadvantaged	Utilise Pupil Needs Risk Assessment at home visit prior to admission to ensure that we are fully aware of pupil and parent/ carer disabilities. Prepare and disseminate appropriate data to SLT and all learning providers in the school including TAs. Review accessibility arrangements/ analyse data to identify gaps in inclusion or where provision adversely impacts on achievement.		SENCo & Pastoral Care Coordinator / School Business Manager  Ops Board in consultation with the School SLT	At Monthly MDG	Relevant data compiled and disseminated to school staff to ensure staff are putting into action specific information on pupils who have disabilities.
12	Establish a training programme	Incorporate appropriate training into the whole school CPD policy. Implement specific and targeted CPD for individuals and groups.		HR department, Ops board and School SLT	By each April for discussion with Headteachers and implementation within our CPD planning from the following September.	Annual CPD plan to include training on Disabilities.
13	Review current activities and consider providing a greater variety	Undertake an audit of current activities and SMT/ SLT to devise		Ops board/ SLT	Ongoing throughout our	Year on year there is a greater range of activities available for

		to meet the wishes of disabled pupils.	creative additional activities to further expand our activity programme to meet the needs of our disabled pupils.		Ops Board and MDG meetings.	specific pupils with disabilities.
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