

Accessibility Plan 2021-2022

INTRODUCTION

The College aims to ensure that it is compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 so that students with disabilities can maximise learning opportunities and fulfil their potential.

Worcester Sixth Form College is committed to:

- Improve communication to ensure availability of relevant information to students with disabilities
- Providing full access to enable students with disabilities to fully participate in the curriculum
- Maintaining and improving a safe physical environment in College
- Ensuring reasonable adjustments are made to prevent students with disabilities being disadvantaged.

In meeting the needs of students with disabilities we are committed to the following Accessibility Plan [staff responsible; timescale]:

- 1. Increasing the extent to which students with disabilities can participate in the college setting and curriculum**
 - a. To investigate how the access to those areas of the curriculum that are normally difficult for students with disabilities to access can be ensured [SLT; ongoing throughout year]
 - b. To further investigate what support or alternative approaches can be adopted to increase the choice/participation of students with disabilities [SLT; by July 2022]
 - c. To continue investigating methods of assisting students with disabilities to learn [Learning Support Manager; ongoing throughout year]
- 2. Improving the physical environment of the college to increase the extent to which disabled students can take advantage of education and associated services**
 - a. To investigate various improvements to the site [Premises Manager; ongoing throughout year. 2021-22 External signage has been improved and work here is ongoing]
 - b. To ensure accessibility to different curriculum areas [Premises Manager; ongoing throughout year]
 - c. To ensure the site is fully accessible to adults with disabilities [Premises Manager; ongoing throughout year]
- 3. Improving the delivery of written or electronic information to students with disabilities**
 - a. To produce all literature in an appropriate font to help visually impaired students [teaching staff; ongoing throughout year]
 - b. To investigate alternative ways of providing access to information, software and activities [Assistant Network Manager; ongoing throughout year]

- c. To investigate alternative ways of providing access to information, software and activities (such as access to texts through the RNIB Bookshare service) [VP PQS; by July 2022]
 - d. To promote the use of the assistive technologies built into Office365 (Immersive Reader for example) across College. [VP PQS; by September 2022]
- 4. To investigate ways of communicating effectively with parents and carers with disabilities as well as other adult users with disabilities of the site**
- a. [VP (PQS); by July 2022] Ongoing.
- 5. To investigate how more students can use assistive technology:**
- a. An Accessibility Chat Bot will be installed into Microsoft Teams to be available to all staff and students. This provides information on accessibility features available. [VP PQS; by September 2022]

Each year relevant policies and procedures will be reviewed to ensure we are further advancing equality between those who have disabilities and those who do not, such that we:

- Support students with disabilities from admission through to completion of their studies
- Maintain and continuously improve the College buildings and facilities
- Ensure the provision of appropriate first aid and emergency plans
- Challenge any discrimination faced by students, staff, parents or visitors with disabilities.

FURTHER INFORMATION

This plan is supported by the following College documents:

- Equality Policy, including Disability Disclosure and Confidentiality Policy & Procedures
- Admissions and Fitness to Study Policy
- Health, Safety & Wellbeing Policy and First Aid arrangements
- Learning Support Policy and Annual Report
- Safeguarding Policy and Annual Report
- Outdoor Offsite Activities Policy