



ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

June 2012

Reviewed May 2015

Ian Mikardo High School is a warm and welcoming environment. We are dedicated to supporting vulnerable people and it is central to our ethos that we are committed to providing a building, grounds and services that are fully accessible to everyone. This includes all students, staff, parents, volunteers and visitors, regardless of their circumstances and needs. Every aspect of our work focuses on removing barriers to learning and development and in this spirit we are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility, and we actively promote a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

This was demonstrated in 2011 when the school premises were rebuilt through the government's BSF scheme and our attitude to full accessibility was encompassed in every aspect of the design.

All the school's external entrances and internal doors are accessible to wheelchair users, and a lift between the ground floor and first floor gives people who are disabled access to all the school's facilities. Should anyone be in difficulties on the first floor, an Emergency Voice Communication System is located at the top of each staircase, enabling an individual to speak to staff in the school's ground floor office, which is always manned during school hours.

Lavatories and showers with disabled access and facilities are located on the ground and first floor and fitted with emergency pull cord alarms.

The dining area has a service hatch that facilitates the serving of drinks and food to wheelchair users.

The grounds and outdoor eating areas are accessible to wheelchair users.

This means that the school and its curriculum, facilities and activities are accessible to disabled students, and that any members of the school's staff or volunteers who have a physical disability are as able to work at Ian Mikardo as those who are able-bodied. Our practice of making the school accessible to everyone enhances the development of the school's facilities for use by the surrounding community outside normal school hours.

This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Curriculum
- Equality Information and Objectives
- Health & Safety
- Behaviour, Discipline and Anti-Bullying
- Special Educational Needs Report

Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published in the Governors' Annual Report to Parents. The Plan is required to be reviewed every three years.