



HAMILTON SCHOOL

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Introduction

Hamilton School is a special school that offers education for students aged 11- 18 with social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH).

All students have an Education Health & Care Plan. The school caters for students from Reading and neighbouring authorities and the pupils come from a variety of socio - economic backgrounds. The students are predominately White British. 77% of students are on the Pupil Premium Register.

We believe that this Accessibility Plan is compliant with current legislation; the Equality Act 2010.

Local Transition Board/Local Advisory Board Members are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a 3-year period.

Accessibility Plan Vision

Hamilton School is accessible to students who are fully mobile, inclusive and has close links to the local community and external provider. The curriculum provides challenging and stimulating learning experiences, with realistic yet high expectations of standards, progress and achievement for all.

Three key words sum up Hamilton School's vision for accessibility for all:

Opportunity

Hamilton School has the opportunity to develop new skills and develop social and emotional well-being through having choices to take part in a range of activities as part of the enrichment activities such as boxercise, RFC Community football programme, kayaking, swimming, Lego club and craft club.

Access

To ensure students are able to develop as young people, a range of support and care is in place. Students have the following support:

- Small class sizes which are led by subject specialists and supported by Learning Support Assistants.
- Full access to the curriculum using scaffolding and differentiation to meet students' individual needs
- Allocated Pastoral Support Workers
- Allocated Tutor
- Literacy and numeracy support; 'Catch up'
- Educational Psychologist visits

Achievement

All students study a broad and balanced curriculum. All students study for Functional skills or GCSEs in English, Maths and Science. Students work towards certificates in Food, Business and Enterprise and Health and Fitness

We celebrate achievement in all aspects of learning and share positive experiences. Students who have 100% attendance receive certification and rewards.

Access to the Curriculum

We provide a differentiated and personalised curriculum that includes the Outreach Team preparing students for life in the workplace. All students in year 10 and 11 have access to work experience placements in the area of their chosen career pathway.

We ensure all students can access activities that we offer and adaptations to activities are made to fulfil this aim. For students to access the curriculum, lessons are differentiated and take account of individual

learning needs. Priority is placed on student participation, as independently as is possible. Adults and students are clear about the learning objectives and outcomes of the lesson, class and individuals.

Access to Wellbeing services

Our Pastoral Support workers work with staff and students to ensure the needs of students are met. Students have access to the School Care Officer, The Designated Safeguarding lead and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding leads.

Students have access to the Educational Psychologist and literacy and numeracy support.

Access to the School Environment

The current school site has challenges in that it is an old building with some terrapin classrooms.

The main building has narrow doorways and corridors and many stairs. We are moving to a new build in September 2021 which will be fully accessible. The present building is not suitable for wheelchair users. If students were temporarily disabled (eg. on crutches owing to broken leg) we would relocate their classes to the ground floor, but they would still need to navigate one or two steps).

Access to Information

All information issued by the school aims to be user friendly and is shared via newsletters, letters, emails and other forms of communication.

We encourage parents and professionals to take up the offer of having communications sent to them electronically as a way of reducing our carbon footprint. The school will provide information in alternative formats when required or requested. Not all parents have provided an email address.

Associated policies and plans

This plan should be read in conjunction with other relevant documents including: SEN Information report and our Equality Policy

This policy will be reviewed in March 2021.

This Plan should read in conjunction with the School Improvement Plan (SIP)

ANNEX 1: HAMILTON SCHOOL - ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Focus	Outcome	Action	Progress
Access to the Curriculum	Staffing, curriculum and provision meet the needs of the students	Curriculum review KS3 & KS4	Sept 2020 New Curriculum plan in place
Access to school environment	New school building fit for purpose for students with SEND	LA, Hamilton School, MET and architects to work together on new school provision	Planning permission granted Feb 20: building due to open Sept 21
Access to school environment	Students have activities to engage with during break and lunch to meet their SEND needs	Sensory room to be relocated and re-equipped Continue to develop quiet room provision Improve provision in hall with new equipment Outdoor gym area upgraded	By May 20
Access to information	Students receive specialist literacy and numeracy support	Identify students and track intervention outcomes	HLTA recruitment April 20
Access to information	Parents receive communication through letters, texts and telephone	Use of parent area on website Provide information to parents in accessible format and differentiate on request	Parentmail email system