

# **Ercall Wood Technology College**

## **Accessibility Plan**

### **Pre-amble to plan**

Ercall Wood Technology College is dedicated to ensure that pupils, parents and staff can access all our facilities. However due to the age of our buildings, there are several areas of the school that would present difficulties to disabled individuals, particularly those that require wheelchair access. To obtain full accessibility in line with current regulations we would require substantial building work.

### **Limitations of existing accommodation**

At reception is there are two flights of steps leading up to the entrance, the largest of which can be avoided using the ramp access that runs along the front to the building. This has resulted in the disabled parking to be situated a considerable distance from the majority of rooms.

There is access available to the left of reception. However this is immediately followed by steps, both to the left (in hall) and right (towards main building).

The main block has a large number of steps limiting access. Due to their frequency and steepness ramps alone would not be an effective solution.

There is ramp access to the rear of the dining room however a small step is present at the bottom.

Access to SEN and English can only be achieved by a flight of steps.

Two flights of steps outside the Pastoral office provide main access to Art and Science.

Almost all of the demountables are only accessible using steps (except Graphics).

There are steps leading up to the main entrance of D&T.

### **Existing provision**

We have continued to seek available opportunities to improve the accommodation, unfortunately this is usually only possible with new builds.

Steps have been highlighted at the top and bottom using white paint to aid visually impaired individuals.

All new builds have accessibility in line with current regulations. The new Science/ICT block has ramp access to both sides of the block. An elevator is installed to allow access to the ICT room. Adjacent to this access is a purpose built disabled toilet.

The Humanities block is accessible from the side of the car park; it has been built on one level so no steps are present. It also includes a purpose built disabled toilet.

All possible arrangements are made to provide a comfortable working environment. We have been working closely with Access to Work to provide bespoke furnishings as and when necessary.

In the case of severe hearing impairment staff utilise a radio mike in all lessons.

### **Future developments**

We do not produce publications in Braille as a general rule. However by working closely with our feeder primary schools we do keep careful tabs on the needs of prospective pupils and their parents. Should a need present itself we would investigate how that need could be fulfilled.

We recently refurbished the PE changing rooms. They now incorporate a disabled toilet and shower facility.

All Primary fire signs have been replaced to ensure that they achieve maximum visibility. The entire alarm system has been updated and now includes local audible alarms.

Work is currently underway to outline evacuation plans. This would be explicitly referenced to disabled staff and pupils if the need presented itself.

### **Conclusion**

Within the constraints of our existing buildings there is limited opportunity to make the school fully accessible. As and when opportunity for new builds arises we will continue to enhance our environment.

As the reception area represents a commonly used area by staff, pupils and parents this would be a priority for development work.