



Accessibility Plan Ludwick Nursery School **June 2016**

Representatives of the Governing body and the Headteacher have surveyed the building to assess accessibility. The building was opened in 1986 and it was felt then that it offered good access to both adults and children in wheelchairs.

Health & safety inspectors checked the premises regularly. A current child wheelchair user finds most of the building accessible. In 2010 the disabled toilet was refurbished to comply with recent DDA specifications. Children's toilets were refurbished in April 2010 so they provide access for wheelchair use and provide good nappy changing facilities for children with disabilities. All doors are wide enough to enable wheelchair access. The classrooms are easier to move around now that many chairs have been removed and each door to the garden has a ramp for wheelchair users. It is possible for wheelchair users to access most of the building and site. All new parts of the building Squirrels/ Children's Centre built in 2004 and Acorns built in 2008 are fully accessible to wheelchair users. In 2012 a new link building was added that increased space for cloakroom and improved access between the different organisations. Access to the garden was considerably improved with ramps to the outdoor area from the Ludwick nursery classrooms.

Children with severe physical disabilities usually need a range of apparatus at this age and stage e.g. standing frame, wheelchair. Nursery children with complex additional needs can move throughout the school successfully with adaptations for visually impaired children and for other disabilities. It is possible to make provision and offer the full curriculum to a child who was a wheelchair user.

We have a special needs group for children with communication speech and language difficulties (Ludwick Enrichment Group) which makes provision for children with very complex problems in these areas. We also have a wide range of other special needs throughout the school mainly learning difficulties, speech and language problems and developmental delay. We have many strengths in our provision for SEN and medical needs and are increasingly able to meet the needs of wheelchair users. We were awarded Herts Inclusion Award (Gold) in 2010 with positive feedback from parents of children with disabilities about the accessibility of the environment and the individual adaptations for children with a disability.

Review by wheelchair users throughout the school year is valued and encouraged. Views of other disabled users welcomed.

Conclusions from Accessibility Audit and issues arising

Area of the Building	Targets for Development
<p><u>Entrance Hall</u> Though improved there is limited space when parents drop off and collect children. This area can become crowded.</p>	<p>Implement a system that allows easy access for parents and children to cloakroom. Consider soft drop off to ease congestion.</p>
<p><u>Disabled Toilet</u> Access to toilet independently by wheel chair users.</p>	<p>Disabled toilets accessible in Children's Centre but access currently via office staff in Ludwick.</p>
<p><u>Office Spaces</u> Accessible by wheelchair.</p>	<p>PPA office: it is difficult to make this room accessible but resources room is accessible.</p>
<p><u>The Garden</u> Shallow steps from both classrooms replaced by ramps. Pedestrian crossing with textured paths installed so children with visual impairment are aware of places to cross cycle path. Some areas of the garden are difficult to access independently for wheelchair users.</p>	<p>Staff to be aware that support is needed for access to some areas of the garden for individual children.</p>

Caroline Baines

Chair of Governors

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