



10: ACCESSIBILITY – POLICY STATEMENT

Review by EDI Workgroup/BA/SMT: June 2025 (Every 2 years)
Ratified by Board: July 2025
Next Review date: Summer Term 2027

The Sheiling Ringwood comprises Sheiling School & Sheiling College (both 'day' and 'residential' provisions) as The Sheiling Special Education Trust (SSET).

Vision and Values – Access for All

The Sheiling Ringwood believes...

“Every child and young person, both because of and despite their challenges, has something to give and something to learn in all of their relationships, with others, with staff, teachers, carers, friends and family”.

In the spirit of this declaration, we are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all students, staff, parents and visitors, regardless of their educational, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We have a policy of equality in opportunity, respect and treatment. We are committed to challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility, and we strive to create a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

The Sheiling Ringwood plans, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all students, staff and visitors to the campus. Access to the curriculum, to The Sheiling Ringwood's physical environments, and to written information about The Sheiling Ringwood is fundamental to achieving inclusion (as well as improving the well-being of our students).

Improving access to Information

We will continually look at how we provide information to all our students, parents, visitors and stakeholders. Examples might include: website (in line with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines - WCAG), timetables, textbooks, letters, handouts and information about the school, college and events. We will improve delivery of written information by making materials accessible and available in different formats, usually on request, within a reasonable timeframe. We will also provide information across different media platforms.

Improving Curriculum access for students

We will continually look to improve curriculum access for students by training our staff, offering a wide range of communication methods and ensuring therapeutic support to enable students to engage in all learning opportunities and activities. This includes teaching and learning (and assessment for learning) and the wider curriculum such as participation in extracurricular learning, leisure and cultural activities and visits. This also includes the provision of specialist aids and varied, inclusive, accessible resources and equipment which may assist students in accessing the curriculum. This will be monitored primarily by The Sheiling Ringwood's Self-Assessment, Quality Assurance and Improvement planning / development processes.

Improving the Environment

The Sheiling Ringwood campus is set in 45 acres of woodland with uneven ground and many slopes and inclines. We will continually look to improve access to the physical environment of our buildings and campus site areas for students, staff, parents, visitors, professionals, and other stakeholders, as necessary and appropriate. This also covers improvements to the physical environment of the site and physical aids to access education.

Where we can provide improved access by reasonable adjustment, we will endeavour to do so. We will undertake to assess students (particularly those with mobility issues) and endeavour to make reasonable adjustments where possible.

Reviewing and Monitoring Accessibility

Accessibility will be managed and considered by the SSET's Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Workgroup which meets three times a year with a view to sharing information and updates, discussing developments and regulatory / statutory changes, and monitoring and reviewing current procedures and processes. We will work in partnership with the local community, parents and other stakeholders in developing and furthering accessibility.

An update from the EDI Workgroup will be made available to any interested parties at reasonable times, as required.

Related policies and documents

- Statement of Purpose
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and Guidance
- Admissions Policy (School and College)
- School & College Curriculum
- Positive Behaviour Support Policies
- School and College Prospectus
- Staff Recruitment and Development Policies

We will strive to recruit and retain staff who can provide a diverse workforce able to empathise with the needs of our students and provide role models. We will constantly look to ensure that our recruitment and employment processes are both robust and sensitive to the needs of potential and existing employees.

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