

St Mary's Infant School Accessibility plan 2016-2019

'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Living with God'

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

The Equality Act 2010 replaced all existing legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning the 'schools cannot lawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation'.

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and a long term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities

The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives. We understand that the Local Authority will monitor the school's activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.

Objectives

St Mary's School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

The school recognizes and values parent's knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on their ability to carry out everyday activities and respects the parent's and child's right to confidentiality.

St Mary's Infant School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable.

The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a physical and/or sensory impairments, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as the able-bodied pupils; (if a school fails to do this they are in breach of their duties under the Equalities Act 2010); this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits- it also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary- this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include hand-outs, timetables and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various formats within a reasonable timeframe.

St Mary's Infant School Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

Whole school training will recognize the needs to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010

This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

Equality and Diversity Scheme
Behaviour Policy
Anti- Bullying Policy
Curriculum Policies
Health & Safety Policy
School Development Plan
SEN Information Report
SEND offer
Inclusion & SEN Policy
Teaching & Learning Policy

The Accessibility Audit relates to the physical accessibility of the School, which remains the responsibility of the governing body. The accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Governor Resources Committee

The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by OFSTED during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resources, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary and reported on annually. Attached is an action plan showing how the school will address the priorities identified and the audit on the physical environment.

Any complaints need to be followed using the school's complaints policy as published on the school website.

The priorities for the Accessibility Plan for our school were identified by:

- **The Governing Body**
- **Head Teacher**
- **INCo**
- **Site Manager**
- **Parents**

The plan is constantly under review to accommodate any new starters with a disability.

Approved by:

Date:

Next review date:

Section 2: Aims and objectives

Our aims are to:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment
- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils

The table below sets out how the school will achieve these aims.

Aim	Current good practice <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Staff are well trained and the support from the non-class based Inclusion Coordinator enables children to be well supported in school.	Continue to implement staff development regarding teaching and supporting children with disabilities (short term)	Any relevant training to be attended by INCo and/or staff as appropriate	Head Inco	On-going/ when necessary	Staff will accommodate needs of disabled children tailored to their needs All staff & classrooms will have access to necessary materials to support the work process of children with disabilities
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	Wheel chair lift to gain access to Year 2 end of the school and is serviced annually Clear school signage exists	Ensure lift remains in good working order and is readily available (medium term) School will continue to provide easy access around the school site(internally & externally) (long term)	Service lift annually Ensure signage is clear & updated in line with any changes to the school building	Office staff Head & FGB	Yearly On going	Lift works when needed and enables the whole school to be accessible to all All visitors are able to navigate their way around the school

Section 3: Access audit

Feature	Description	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by
Number of floors	Majority of the school is on one level. Year 2 area of the school is located via low level steps. Wheel Chair lift is available	Ensure yearly service on wheel chair lift is carried out	Office Manager Head	Yearly
Corridor access	Corridor is accessed by all classrooms and is accessible to all. Wide enough for wheelchairs & walking frames	Ensure corridor is kept free of obstructions	Classteachers	Ongoing
Lifts	Only 1 (see above)	As above		
Parking bays	Disabled Bay available in staff carpark	Investigate ways of keeping bay clear Possibility of remarking to make best use of space and ease of access	Head	2017/2018
Entrances	Entrance is clearly signed	Consider signs available in other languages / larger font/ use of colour	Head	2017
Ramps	All outside class room doors have ramp access/ flat access	Monitor standard	Site Manager	On going
Toilets	Each year group has boys and girls toilets in communal areas. Disabled toilet/ First Aid room is located in the centre of the school.	Maintain standards	Site Manager	On going
Reception area	Reception located through automatic door activated with low level button	Service automatic doors annually Update sensors as necessary to ensure doors remain safe and functioning well	Head	2017

Internal signage	Fire escape signs in school	Ensure they remain visible Investigate signs in different languages as reflected in school community	Head & Site manager	2017/18
Emergency escape routes	Fire Risk Assessment completed annually Daily checks as part of Site Manager daily routine Checked half termly as part of Health & Safety Checklist		Head & Site Manager	Ongoing