



Accessibility Plan

Leader/ Co-ordinator	Mrs V Barker Mrs J M Farrimond Mrs K Gillard Mrs L Bannister
Groups Involved in Discussion	Staff Headteacher Governing Body Pupils

At St. Aidan's Primary School our values reflect our commitment to a school where there are high expectations of everyone. Children are provided with high quality learning opportunities so that each child attains and achieves all that they are able to. Everyone in our school is important and included. We promote an ethos of care and trust where every member of our school community feels that they truly belong and are valued. We work hard to ensure there are no invisible children here, recognising everyone's uniqueness and success. We recognise learning in all its forms and are committed to nurturing lifelong learners. We are a safe school, committed to improving children's confidence and self-esteem. We know that safe and happy children achieve.

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 equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that "schools cannot unlawfully 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 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, and will similarly be published on the school website. 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. Aidan's Primary 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 recognises 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.

The St. Aidan's Primary 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.



ST. AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to:

- Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a physical disability 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 schools 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, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

Whole school training will recognise the need 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:

- Behaviour Management Policy
- Curriculum Policies
- Emergency Plan
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy

The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this accessibility plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An 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.

Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website. It will be monitored through the Governor Asset 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 resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary and reported on annually. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the school will address the priorities identified in the plan.

A plan of the school buildings showing areas of accessibility is shown in Appendix A

This policy was last up-dated on	November 2021
Discussed and agreed with Governors	22 November 2021 (FGB Meeting)
Formal Review of Policy	October 2024

Signed: _____
Headteacher, Mrs J. M. Farrimond

Chair of Governors, Mr J Leake



ST. AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

An Access Audit was carried out by the HT and SBM in November 2021. A number of recommendations were made as follows:

Schedule 21: Action Plan A – Improving Physical Access

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed
1	Corridors	Keep corridors clear from obstructions	Immediate	High	None	On-going
2	Car Park and School Grounds	Disabled space allocated when needed Areas are monitored and addressed, e.g. snow/ice	On-going	High	Cost to demarcate space Grit, £200+ a year allocated	On-going
3	External ramps and steps	Fixed ramps are monitored (Learning Pods) Temporary/portable ramps would be purchased	On-going Within the time frame	High	Quotes would be sought as need	On-going
4	Entrances	Ensure double-doors are clear	Immediate	High	None	On-going
5	Office / Reception	Maintain area in its current form	On-going	Low	None	N/a
6	Doors	Power-assisted doors would be fitted throughout school	Immediate, at time of need	High	Quotes would need to be sought	As appropriate
7	Toilets	Ensure both disable toilets are clear of obstruction and accessible at all times	Immediate	High	None	On-going
8	Fixtures and Fittings	School has allocated an appropriate classroom in each Phase. Class movement could be necessary Adapted furniture would need to be considered Adaptations to access to 'free' reading books for children	Immediate, at time of need	High	Quotes would need to be sought	As appropriate
9	Means of Escape	Appropriate classrooms allocated with means of escape clear Consideration given when fire-drills take place	Immediate, at time of need	High	None	As appropriate
10	Access to Information	At request, information can be present in all forms, including on different coloured paper or larger fonts, as examples Consider where translation or audio-reading on the website could support families	Immediate, at time of need On-going SBM to speak with Benchmark	Medium Medium	None To be confirmed	As appropriate



ST. AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Schedule 21: Action Plan B – Improving Curriculum Access

Ref	Question	Recommendations	Time Scale	Priority	Cost	Date Completed
1	Differentiation in Teaching	Inclusion Manager and SLT to monitor quality of provision for SEND pupils	Spring 2022	High	Release of staff	Summer 2022
2	Interventions	Inclusion Manager has an on-going audit of provision	Spring 2022	High	Release of staff Costing of resources	Summer 2022
3	Specialist equipment	Continue to provide coloured paper Equipment faults reported to Inclusion Manager and SBM	On-going	High	Resource implications where gaps are identified	On-going
4	Classrooms organised to promote the participation and independence of all	Class teachers to be aware. IM to monitor	On-going	High	None	On-going
5	CCPs and EHCPs are in place	IM to ensure compliance and relevance of documentation	Every Term	High	None	End of each Term
6	Staff training	IM to ensure QFT and training needs of all staff and updated and relevant	On-going	High	Cost dependent on access to training	On-going
7	Health and Well-being	Pastoral Manager to monitor and address	On-going	High	Cost dependent	On-going