



St Teresa's Accessibility Plan 2016-19

This Accessibility Policy and Plan are 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 on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

1. We are committed to providing an accessible environment which 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 challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.
2. St Teresa's School plans, over time, to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
3. An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three-year period. The plan will be updated annually.
4. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA). 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 aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
 - Improve and make reasonable adjustments to 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 time frame.
5. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this first Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each first three year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
6. We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

Contextual Information

The majority of the school building and playground is accessible for children in a wheelchair, thanks to alterations made to the site for a disabled member of staff. There is a ramp outside the Early Years block with doors have been widened appropriately.

The Current Range of Disabilities within St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

The school has children with a limited range of disabilities which include Autistic Spectrum Disorder, cerebral palsy and serious medical conditions with related susceptibility to infections. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts Health professionals for assessments, support and guidance for the school and parents.

We have children who have asthma and all staff are aware of these children. Inhalers are kept in the classrooms and a record of use is noted. Some children have allergies or food intolerances/cultural food choices. All medical information is collated and available to staff, on the staff notice board, the head teachers' office. We have competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates. All medication is kept in a central safe and secure place which has easy access for First Aiders and staff members. Administration of Medicines consent forms are filled in by parents outlining the illness and amount and time of medication. All medication that is given is recorded.

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School Accessibility Plan 2016-17

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes	Time Frame	Achieved
EQUALITY AND INCLUSION				
To improve staff awareness of disability issues	Review staff training needs. Provide appropriate CPD	Whole school community aware of issues.	On-going	
To ensure all policies consider implications of disability access	Consider during review of all policies (school and MAC)	Policies reflect current legislation	On-going	
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT				
To ensure the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all children, parents and staff.	New ramp outside annexe Additional disabled parking Relocate entrance next to car park Widen door in Reception classroom	Improved access and parking on school site	Spring 2017	
Improve signage and information around school site	Access to school clearly visible First Aid and fire assembly points clearly identified	Visitors can access the site easily. Children and adults are fully informed of first aid and fire procedures.	Spring 2017	
CURRICULUM				
To ensure all children are able to access out of school activities	Work with external providers. Carry out appropriate checks and risk assessments	All providers comply with legislation to ensure all the needs of children are met	On-going	
To promote a positive awareness of disability in society	Celebrate disability in sport Learn about disabled role models	Children develop empathy and positive mindsets of disabled people in our community	Annually	
To ensure all children can access the curriculum including statutory tests	Provide any specialist equipment needed. Assess the needs of all children Provide additional time, modified tests etc.	Children can access all areas of their learning Children are not disadvantaged by their disability	Annually	
COMMUNICATION				
To ensure all stakeholders can access information	Written information provided on request ICT access provided in school	Information is readily available and accessible	On-going	
To ensure parents with a physical disability or specific learning difficulty can access all information	Offer meetings via phone call Information sent home in a dyslexia friendly format Help provided with form filling etc	Parents stay fully informed and can access any information needed	On-going	