

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School



English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

‘Walking with Jesus – God’s love in action’

Accessibility Policy and Plan

This Policy Will Be Reviewed Every 3 Years

DATE: Spring 2017

Date of next intended review: Spring 2020

Equality & Diversity

We have considered the impact on equality and diversity on this policy and judge the impact to be neutral.

MISSION STATEMENT

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School offers distinctive Catholic education within a caring Christian community where everyone feels loved and valued, confident and secure.

We believe that each person is precious and gifted, unique and loved by God. With Christ as our inspiration we work in partnership to create a challenging, effective and exciting learning environment where everyone is encouraged to embrace opportunity

Learning and Teaching

We provide an exciting, creative and effective learning environment, recognising and responding to individual learning styles. We aim to help each child experience success and to embrace every opportunity by providing the highest -standard of education and care. Children take responsibility for and participate fully in their own learning. Our curriculum will be both balanced and spiritually based and will fulfil all statutory requirements.

Catholic Life of the School

We recognise God in all aspects of our mission. Specifically we will help children to develop their personal relationship with God. We will deliver high quality learning and teaching in religious education rooted in Catholic values and beliefs. We encourage respect for and understanding of other faiths and beliefs. The school environment will speak of Jesus Christ at the heart of our community. Children will be given opportunities to participate in creative and varied worship appropriate to their age and understanding. We are an integral part of the parish and will play an active part in its life.

Relationships

We will help each member of the school community to recognise that we are all precious in God's eyes. We will show love and respect for each other. We will give to each other the affirmation we all need and will try to respond to each other's needs.

Parents

We will work to achieve a creative partnership between parents and school which recognises our different responsibilities in the education of the children.

We will communicate effectively with all parents. We will establish a bond of trust, building a partnership which nurtures the children's learning, spiritual development and pastoral care.

Community Cohesion

We will be an integral part of the local community. We will increase the children's awareness of wider world issues. We will develop their sense of responsibility for and involvement in both of these.

We will ensure that our community life witnesses our Christian values and beliefs in all that we do and say.

Walking with Jesus – God's love in action

Disability

We are a Catholic school. Through all our endeavours, we aim to recognise the presence and power of Jesus Christ at the very centre of our existence. As we seek to fulfil the educational needs of the children, we strive to live and act according to His will in all that we do and say. We will help each member of the school community to recognise that we are all precious in God's eyes. We will show love and respect for each other. We will give to each other the affirmation we all need and will try to respond to each other's needs.

We aim to help each child experience success and to reach their full potential by providing the highest possible standard of education.

At all times and in all areas of school life every reasonable measure will be taken to ensure that each member of this school community is enabled to participate as fully as possible, and achieve success and recognition appropriate to age, understanding and any disability.

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. Academy Councillors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

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.

English Martyr's Catholic Primary School plans, over time, to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.

An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three-year period. The plan will be updated annually.

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 handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable period.

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 immediately 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.

We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising, and training for staff and Academy Councillors in the matter of disability discrimination.

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School

Accessibility Plan

2017 – 2020

Improving Access to the Curriculum

Target	Strategy	Lead	Timescale	Success Criteria
Audit of pupil needs and staff training to meet those needs	Review the specific need for pupils living with a disability in terms of daily living skills and relationships.	SMT All staff	ongoing	Teachers are aware of relevant issues and can ensure all pupils have equality of access to life preparation learning.
Classrooms are organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils.	Review lay out of furniture and classroom equipment to support learning.	All staff	ongoing	Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments, to accommodate the needs of individuals
Provide specialist play equipment	Enable disabled pupils to enjoy play which would otherwise be inaccessible to them.	SENCO SLT	ongoing	Disabled pupils have active, inclusive playtimes.
Appropriate use of IT equipment to benefit individual pupils and staff	Provide specialised appropriate IT resources to meet pupil need	SMT ICTco	Ongoing	Increased access to the curriculum
All extra-curricular activities are planned to ensure the participation of all pupils	Review extra-curricular activities to ensure compliance with legislation	SMT	Ongoing	All extra-curricular activities are accessible to disabled pupils

Improving Access to Written Information

Target	Strategy	Lead	Timescale	Success Criteria
Availability of written material in alternative formats, including large text for the visually impaired, if requested.	The school will make itself aware of the services available for converting written information into alternative formats.	Office staff SLT SENCO	As requested	Improved delivery of information to disabled pupils
Make school newsletters or other information for parents available in alternative formats, including large text for the visually impaired, if requested	Review current school publications and promote alternative formats	Office staff SLT	As requested	Improved delivery of school information to parents.

Improving Access to the Physical Environment

Target	Strategy	Lead	Timescale	Success Criteria
To continue to monitor equipment and resources in FS to accommodate pupils with PD.	Be aware if any equipment is not accessible and purchase new or modify as necessary.	FS staff and SENCO	Ongoing	No FS pupil will be restricted or limited in access to play equipment.

Actions Previously Taken To Improve Accessibility

Disabled Parking Bay provided
Braille signs erected around school
Hearing Loop provided in Reception
Emergency Alarm provided in Disabled Toilet
Suitable chair provided for disabled staff
Playground tables provided for wheelchair using pupils
Reflective paint on steps in playground
Hearing Impairment Training for Staff – In response to meeting needs of HI pupils
After school sign language Club – In response to meeting needs of HI pupils
Makaton after school Club – In response to meeting needs of HI pupils
Specialist equipment purchased for FS for PD pupil
Height adjustable tables purchased for DT Room
Suitable chairs purchased for disabled or elderly visitors to school events

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<i>Accessibility Policy and Plan</i>

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

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Date

Signed by the Headteacher

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Date