



Middleton Parish Church School

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

Middleton Parish Church School
Springfield Road, Middleton, Manchester, M24 5DL
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Head teacher: Sarah Oxley
Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator: Sally Baker
Chair of Governors: Clarrie Smith
SEN Governor: Lisa Holmes

Designated Teacher for Looked After Children: Victoria Duncan
Designated Safeguarding Lead: Sarah Oxley

Deputy Safeguarding Officer: Chris Lowe

The 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. Middleton Parish Church School plans to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
3. The plan will be updated yearly.
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 and able-bodied pupils are equally prepared for; (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.

The plan will be monitored by governors

The plan will be monitored by OFSTED as part of their inspection process.

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. The SENDCO has provided and/or arranged whole school training on Autism awareness, Adaptive Teaching, Sensory Processing, Cause for Concerns, IEP writing and much more. This program of training will continue.

- There are very few parts of the school to which disabled pupils have limited or no access, this is primarily due to the width of some doorways. The school delegated capital funding is used to make minor adjustments to improve access and support the needs of its current community and physical changes to the building can happen when needed.
- In addition, the environment is continually enhanced through the school's building maintenance and re-decoration programme.
- There is access to ALL extra-curricular activities and clubs, art enrichment groups, school visits, residential and peripatetic instrumental tuition with appropriate risk assessments/additional support in place to ensure this happens safely.

The review will look at each action and assess whether the success criteria has been met. Any actions that are incomplete or require further attention are carried forward to the next action plan.

Current Position

- The school buildings are fully accessible for pupils with physical difficulties. A disabled access ramp has been added to the end classroom of the lodge to allow wheelchair access from the rear of the building. Some Breakout Rooms have narrow doorways that would restrict wheelchair access but accommodations/changes to rooms are made when needed.
- The outside playground areas are flat and completely accessible to wheelchair users. However, the Forest School area is on a slope and has limited access for a wheelchair user. A path is available and would need to be assessed for suitability before use. The field area would currently only be accessible with support.
- There are 3 toilets for disabled pupils in different areas of the school, 1 of which contains an adult size changing bed, shower and hoist.
- The school is equipped with a range of learning aids and specific equipment including defibrillators.
- The Pastoral team, under the line management of the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Sarah Oxley, supports a range of vulnerable pupils and their families.
- Training has taken place in SEND, ASC, ADHD, Adaptive Teaching, Sensory Processing and there are 7 fully trained first aiders. Two staff have undertaken a 'Managing Medicines' course. Medical Professionals train staff to support specific children's needs as they arise, including support from consultants and Manchester Children's Hospital.

- The Business Manager and Site Manager have all undertaken IOSH training.

