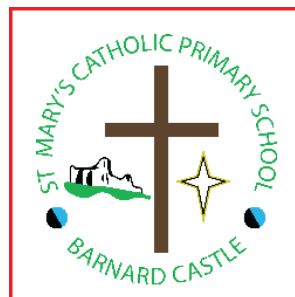


Accessibility and Disability Plan 2023-24



Head Teacher – Lesley Box
Chair of Governing Body – Emma Curran

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this plan is to show how St Mary's Catholic Primary School intends to secure appropriate access to the school for disabled pupils. At St Mary's Catholic Primary School our intent is to live out our faith in ensuring all children 'can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13

Legal Background

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. The Governing Body are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

The Equality Act of 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."

Definition of a Disability

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

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

This plan sets out the proposals of The Governing Body of the school to secure appropriate access to education for disabled pupils in the three required key areas of; curriculum, environment and information;

- Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum, which includes teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school, such as participation in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits.
- Improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services, which includes improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
- Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled. The information should take account of the pupils' disabilities and the preferred format of pupils and parents and be made available within a reasonable timeframe.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School aims to treat all as equals. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils and their families and relevant agencies in order to remove or minimise any potential barriers to learning. The school has an active approach to promoting positive attitudes to all.

Contextual Information

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is a single storey building. It is completely accessible to wheelchair users. There is a sloped path leading to the field, which in some weather will be unsuitable for wheelchair users. There is an accessible path to our Nurture Pod. Door frames to the pod are accessible for wheelchair users with the aid of a removable ramp. As well as steps with handrails either side there is also sloped access to the outdoor learning area.

There is a disabled toilet in school situated near the front entrance of the school.

Within the school car park there is a designated disabled parking bay.

All fire exits are accessible, some have fixed ramps and some require removable ramps.

The current range of disabilities within St Mary's Catholic Primary School

The school has children with a limited range of disabilities which include high sensory needs, cognition and learning needs, social and emotional needs and some medical needs. When children enter school with specific difficulties, the school contacts relevant professionals for guidance.

We have some children who have asthma and all staff are aware of these children. Inhalers are kept in the classrooms to ensure that children can immediately access them. School also has an emergency inhaler situated in the medical cabinet. The teacher's record when they are used. Children with allergies and food intolerances are highlighted in classroom files and to the kitchen staff. Photographs of the children are displayed in the kitchen so that all kitchen staff, including any supply staff can easily identify pupils. Currently, we do not have any children with diabetes. Some children have individual medical plans suited to their needs. Mrs Sedgewick is responsible for the plans and keeping staff members and files updated

All medical information is collated and shared with relevant staff. We have a large number of first aiders. Key members of staff are trained in paediatric first aid.

All prescribed medication is kept in the locked medical cabinet or the fridge in the staff room if it must be kept cold. Administration of medicine forms are filled in by parents and all medication given is recorded.

Objectives	Strategies	Outcome	Timeframe
Equality and Inclusion			
To ensure that the Accessibility Plan becomes an annual item at Governing Body meetings.	Clerk to Governors to add to list for Governing Body meetings.	Adherence to legislation.	Yearly
To improve staff awareness of disability issues.	Audit staff training needs. Provide training as required.	Staff are aware of current issues and how to ensure that all are included.	Ongoing
To ensure that all policies consider the implications of disability access.	Consider during policy review.	Policies reflect current legislation.	Ongoing
Physical Environment			
To ensure that, adjustments to the school buildings and grounds maintain accessibility for all children and adults.(Nurture Pod)	Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by site manager when making adjustments.	Access will be maintained / enhanced. Removable ramps will be purchased in anticipation of a pupil being admitted with mobility issues.	Ongoing
To ensure that buildings upkeep / maintenance takes account of accessibility requirements. (Relocation of school library in atrium).	Consideration will be given to colour schemes. Accessibility aids will be maintained to a good standard.	Ongoing school upgrades and maintenance will meet the requirements.	Ongoing
Curriculum			
To continue to train staff to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEND (focus on sensory classrooms and Nurture group intervention).	SENDco (Mrs Box) to review the needs of children and provide training for staff as needed.	Staff are equipped to enable all children to access the curriculum.	Ongoing
To ensure that all children are able to access out of school activities and residential trips.	Review out of school provision and adapt as necessary.	Children are able to access out of school activities.	Ongoing
To ensure that all children can participate in curriculum lessons.	Provide specialist equipment as required.	All children can participate in curriculum lessons.	Ongoing
Written / other information			
To ensure that all members of our community can access information.	Written information is clear and concise. It is provided in other forms as necessary.	Written information is offered in a range of formats.	Ongoing

