



Accessibility Plan

Approved by:	Isobel Vassallo	Date: September 2021
Last reviewed on:	September 2021	
Next review due by:	September 2024	

Mission Statement

We would like to be recognised by the quality and depth of respect and love which we show towards each other.

Mutual respect and tolerance are central to our way of life at St. Mary's, as we meet Jesus Christ in each other.

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1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

Our school aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind.

St Mary's School is an inclusive school and offers a range of provision to support children with SEND in:

- communication and interaction
- cognition and learning difficulties,
- social, mental and emotional health problems
- sensory, physical or medical needs.

The range of support deployed will be tailored to individual need following through thorough assessment by internal or external agencies. It is designed to promote pupils working towards becoming independent and resilient learners and should not be seen in isolation.

Every child, regardless of their needs, will be given the same opportunities as all children. However, children with SEND will have careful consideration given to them with an awareness given to their particular learning style or need.

St Mary's is a caring community school welcoming of all. It is dedicated to high standards of achievement and behaviour. Learning is enjoyable and rewarding and the gifts and abilities of every child are recognised and nurtured.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including pupils, staff, parents and governors of St. Mary's.

2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#). The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim	Current good practice	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success criteria
<p>Improve and maintain access to the physical environment</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible toilet • Light switches, power outlets and emergency alarm buttons • To adapt the female toilet in reception area so that it is fully accessible and to reinstate an 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide one unisex accessible toilet in A block – as finance permits • To be moved to wheelchair height – as finance permits • As finance permits 	<p>SLT, SENCO, SBM, Site Manager</p>	<p>July 2024</p>	<p>Actions completed</p>

		accessible toilet for males				
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	I. Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases		Class Teachers, SLT, SBM, Site Manager	July 2024	All learning needs are fully inclusive and all children have equal access to the National Curriculum
	II. All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils	Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation	All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements	SLT, SBM, External Providers, specific curriculum leaders e.g. P.E. leaders	July 2024	Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils
Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability	The school will make itself aware of the services available through the LA for converting written information into alternative formats.	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes		SLT, SBM, Site Manager, Admin Officers, Class teachers	July 2024	Delivery of information to disabled pupils and parents improved

Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats	Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it	The school will ensure that school information is accessible to all.	Information available in any format including any that has been specifically identified or requested.	SLT, SBM, Site Manager, Admin Officers, Class teachers	July 2024	All communications fit for purpose irrespective of need.
Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with visual impairment	Through the school's partnership with Bromley health service	The school will ensure that school information is accessible to all.	Information available in any format including any that has been specifically identified or requested. This includes any specific curriculum resources and NCA Assessment materials for pupils with visual impairment	SENCO, SLT,SBM, Class Teachers	July 2024	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual difficulties improved.
Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with hearing impairment	Through the school's partnership with Bromley health service Sound Field systems	The school will ensure that school information is accessible to all. Regular maintenance and upgrade of Soundfield Systems in	Information available in any format including any that has been specifically identified or requested.	SENCO, SLT,SBM, Class Teachers	July 2024	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with hearing difficulties improved.

		classrooms and the 2 school Halls				
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