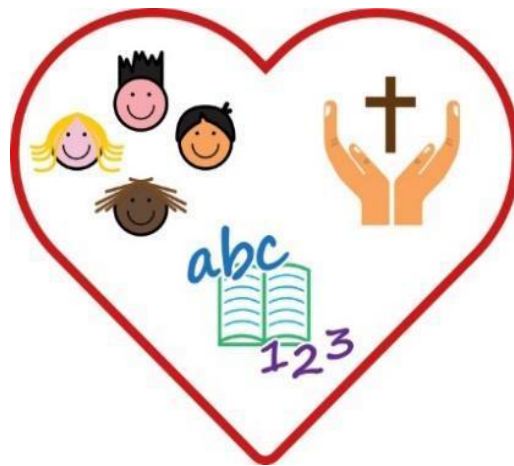


# ST. MATTHEW'S C.E. PRIMARY ACADEMY



## ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Reviewed: March 2024  
By: M Mackley

Date of next review: March 2027

## Accessibility Plan 2024-2027

### Mission Statement:

St. Matthew's C.E. Academy is dedicated to providing an education which enables every child to fulfil their best potential. It seeks to promote academic, emotional and spiritual growth in a Christian environment, welcoming children drawn from diverse cultures.

### Vision Statement:

Inspired by Jesus' words (Matthew 5: 1-12), we strive to promote academic, emotional and spiritual growth in a Christian environment for all members of our school family.

We can all **'Be blessed by God, be happy and aspire to be...'**

### 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 pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided
- Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities

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.

Compliance with the Equality Act is consistent with our setting's aims and equal opportunities policy and SEN information report.

Our staff recognise their duty under the Equality Act:

- Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- To publish an accessibility plan

Our school

- recognises and values the young person's knowledge or parents' knowledge of their child's disability
- recognises the effect their disability has on his/her ability to carry out activities,
- respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality

The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum that is differentiated, personalised and age appropriate.

## **St Matthew's Church of England Primary Academy – Accessibility Plan**

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, the complaints procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

### **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 they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their 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 pupil with disabilities faces in comparison with a pupil without disabilities. 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.

## St Matthew's Church of England Primary Academy – Accessibility Plan

### 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 (Including established practice and practice under development)	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Completion Date	Success Criteria
Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability	Children with a wide range of needs already access the full curriculum wherever possible (incl VI, PD, SEMH)	All children with a disability are able to access the full curriculum offer.	Work with families and the children to review access to the curriculum and identify next steps from this.	SENDCO	On-going	Positive feedback from parents and agencies and the children with regard to their engagement in the full curriculum. Positive feedback from Ofsted.
	Positive liaison and access to support with local agencies incl LA and NHS as well as private providers such as Bridge Speech & Language Therapy.	Ensure that existing relationships are robust and identify potential new sources of support	Review existing relationships.			
	Children with disabilities are enabled to attend the annual Y6 residential trip. All children are supported to access school trips / visits.	All with a disability are enabled to attend and participate as fully as reasonably practicable.	Engage with families at the earliest opportunity to identify adjustments required to enable the children to attend and participate.	SENDCO/HT /FSW	As required	No child left out.
	Use of technology to enable children to access the curriculum eg Clicker  Resources are adapted to meet the needs of those with disabilities - eg Large Font for	Ensure resources are effective and identify potential new technologies to further increase access.  Sufficient resources in place for all	Pupil Voice on impact of technology. Liaise with agencies to identify new technologies.  Audit and replenish as required.	SENDCO  All staff	On-going  On-going	Barriers to engagement broken down and children engaging more in the full curriculum.  All children able to engage - barriers removed as far as

### St Matthew's Church of England Primary Academy – Accessibility Plan

	VI, use of different colour backgrounds for those with dyslexia...  All clubs are open to all, regardless of disability.			All staff	On-going	reasonably practicable.  No child prevented from attending a club.
Aim	Current Good Practice (Including established practice and practice under development)	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Completion Date	Success Criteria
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	Stair climber in place for child with PD to enable him to ascend/descend the stairs without excessive tiredness (2023/24)	Provide permanent access to all floors.	Investigate and seek funding for installation of lift and other aids to enable all to access all floors	SENDCO	Done	Child able to access 1st floor and fatigue levels reduced.
		Provision of disabled toilet facilities.	Investigate and cost the provision of an appropriate facility - room already identified.	HT/Trust leadership	2026	Disabled toilet facility on both floors - ease of access for those needing it.
	Hydraulic changing bed provided within private space for those requiring intimate care.		Plan for replacement once child leaves	SENDCO	2026	Appropriate furniture in place to facilitate ease of changing for child and limited physical impact on staff.
	New main entrance is wheelchair friendly.			HT	Done	New entrance is all on one level.
	Staff work to meet the needs of all, child or adult, with additional needs within the constrictions of a building which is mostly of Victorian construction.			All staff	On-going	Building doesn't limit access to the curriculum.
	Reduction of over stimulus	VI - decoration, appropriate	Within	HT / Trust	Hessian -	Children with

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	<p>from colour use for those with ADHD / VI challenges - use of hessian on all display boards.</p> <p>Habilitation - working with outside agency to support VI child with accessing both the school and locality in a safe manner. Provision of appropriate furniture to enable children with PD to access the curriculum fully.</p>	colours	re-decoration/refurbishment plans, ensure consideration given to RNIB colour charts.	<p>leadership</p> <p>SENDCO</p>	<p>done</p> <p>Wider decoration - on-going</p> <p>2025</p>	<p>concentration / over stimulation challenges are more able to focus in lessons.</p> <p>Habilitation needs are met - as far as is reasonably practicable.</p>
<p>Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability</p>	<p>VI - images are not over cluttered</p> <p>Use of magnifiers / visualisers</p> <p>Access resources from appropriate agencies, eg low vision clinic.</p> <p>Use of enlarged prints for statutory exams.</p> <p>Work with HI specialist teacher to ensure that aids are fitted correctly and staff able to maintain the equipment in order to prevent poor access to information and learning.</p>	<p>Increased access to tech to improve access to learning.</p> <p>Linking tablets to printing facilities.</p> <p>Use of voice dictation for those with PD issues which limit ability to handwrite.</p>	<p>Staff to be trained in ensuring materials are sharp and clear and not cluttered.</p> <p>SLT ensure that appropriate aids ordered.</p>	<p>SENCO/HT</p>	<p>As required</p>	<p>Tech / Aids are appropriately used to enable those with the needs to fully access the curriculum / exams as far as is reasonably practicable.</p>

## St Matthew's Church of England Primary Academy – Accessibility Plan

## **St Matthew's Church of England Primary Academy – Accessibility Plan**

### **4. Monitoring arrangements**

This document will be reviewed every 3 years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary. It will be reviewed by the Headteacher.

It will be approved by Local Governing Committee.

### **5. Links with other policies**

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

Health and safety policy

Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication

Special educational needs (SEN) information report

SEND policy

Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy



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