



## Accessibility Plan/ Policy

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<b>Policy Created by;</b>	L. Wordsworth
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<b>To be reviewed;</b>	July 2024
<b>UNCRC (United Nation Convention of the Rights of a Child) Articles included in this policy;</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 15, 16, 17, 23, 24, 28, 34, 36 and 39

### Our Mission Statement

At St Anne's RC Primary School, we work together, learn together, play and care together in God's love to enable each unique person to achieve their full potential.

We aim to meet the needs of every child through a challenging, enriched curriculum, where everyone feels valued and respected. Providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment through an inclusive partnership between children, parents, our school, our church and the wider community.

## **Purpose of the Plan**

The purpose of this plan is to show how St Anne's RC Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils. Under the Equality Act 2010 schools should have an Accessibility Plan. The Equality Act 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". According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

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

## **Legal Background**

It is a requirement that the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented and reviewed and revised as necessary. This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- 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. e.g. handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about school events. 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 Anne's RC Primary School aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and other members of the school community favorably and, wherever possible, takes reasonable steps to avoid placing anyone at a substantial disadvantage. The school aims to work closely with disabled pupils, their families and any relevant outside agencies in order to remove or minimize any potential barriers to learning, which puts them at a disadvantage, but allows them to learn, achieve and participate fully in school life. The school is active in promoting positive attitudes to disabled people in the school and in planning to increase access to education for all disabled pupils. As part of the school's continued communication with parents, carers and other stakeholders we continually look at ways to improve accessibility through data collection, questionnaires and parental discussions.

The Accessibility Plan is listed as a statutory document of the Department for Education's guidance on statutory policies for schools. The Plan must be reviewed every three years and approved by the Governing Body. The review process can be delegated to a committee of the Governing Body, an

individual or the Head. At St. Anne's RC. Primary School, the Plan will form part of the responsibilities of the Curriculum and Premises Governors Committee.

### **St Anne's Accessibility Plan**

At St. Anne's RC. Primary School we are committed to working together to provide an inspirational and exciting learning environment where all children can develop an enthusiasm for life-long learning. We believe that children should feel happy, safe and valued so that they gain a respectful, caring attitude towards each other and the environment both locally and globally.

St. Anne's RC Primary School is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that 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 taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

The St. Anne's RC. Primary School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school within a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable.

The Accessibility Plan contains relevant and timely actions to: -

Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding 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 their duties under the Equalities Act 2010); this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or schools visits – it also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;

- Improve and maintain access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary - this covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education within a reasonable timeframe;
- Improve 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 timeframe.

This Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Asset Management Plan
- Respect Relationships and Behaviour Management Policy

- Curriculum Policy
- Critical Incident Support Plan
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Equality Policy
- School Prospectus
- School Improvement Plan
- SEND Policy

### **Contextual Information**

The majority of the school building and playground is accessible for a child in a wheelchair, thanks to the new extension that was finished in August 2015. This new part of the building has a lift, as an alternative to steps, which is specifically designed for wheelchair use. Disabled toilets are provided in each Key Stage.

### **The Current Range of Disabilities within St Anne's RC Primary School**

The school has children with a limited range of disabilities which include Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Communication and Language difficulties and Epilepsy. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts the LA professionals for assessments, support and guidance for the school and parents.

We have a few children who have asthma and all staff are aware of these children. Inhalers are kept in the classrooms and a record of use is noted. Some children have allergies or food intolerances/cultural food choices; information on children with allergies/food intolerance is displayed in the school kitchen near the serving point. All medical information is collated and available to staff in the shared drive. We have a large number of staff who are Paediatric First Aid trained. Their training is updated every 3 years. All medication is kept in a central safe and secure place in the school office which has easy access for First Aiders and staff members. Administration of Medicines consent forms are filled in by parents outlining the illness and amount and time of medication. All medication that is given is recorded.

**St. Anne's R.C. Primary School Accessibility Plan 2022-2023**

EQUALITY AND INCLUSION				
Targets	Strategies	Outcomes	Timeframe	Achieved
To ensure that the accessibility Plan becomes an annual item at the FGB meetings.	Clerk to governors to add to list for FGB meetings.	Adherence to legislation	Annually	
To improve staff awareness of disability issues.	Review staff training needs. Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate.	Whole school community is aware of issues.	Ongoing	
To ensure that all statutory policies reflect inclusive practice and procedure.	Consider during review of policies.	Policies reflect current legislation. School complies with Equality Act 2016.	Ongoing	
To establish close liaison with outside agencies for pupils with ongoing health needs e.g. children with asthma, epilepsy or mobility issues.	To ensure collaboration between all key personnel. HT, SENCo, Inclusion AH, TAs, Outside Agencies.	Clear collaborative working approach.	Ongoing	