

# St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

## Recognising and celebrating the presence of Christ in one another.

At St. Mary of the Angels:

- ◆ we aim to follow Jesus through the teaching of the Gospels and inspire each other to be Christ-like;
- ◆ we all work as a big team to encourage everyone to be the best that they can be, at work and at play;
- ◆ we create a safe, positive, fair environment where all feel respected and valued.



### Accessibility Plan 2021-2023 Policy

Current date approved:	September 2021
Approved by:	Full Governing body
Date of Next review:	September 2023

## Aims of the Policy

The purpose of this plan is to show how St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School intends, over time, to increase the accessibility of our school for disabled pupils.

## Definition of Disability

A person has a disability 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 carry out normal day to day activities.

## Legal Background

From September 2002, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 outlawed discrimination by schools and LA's against either current or prospective disabled pupils in their access to education. 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 Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School aims to treat all stakeholders, including pupils, prospective pupils, staff, governors and other members of the school community favourably 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 minimise 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 Current Range of Disabilities within St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

- The school has children with a limited range of disabilities which include varying levels of the Autistic Spectrum Disorder, ADD, Dyslexia, Global learning Difficulties, Cerebral Palsy and a small number of serious medical/anxiety related conditions. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts the LA, the SEND dept and Outreach Multi Agency professionals for assessments, support and guidance for both school and parents.

- We have children who have asthma and all staff are aware of these children. An asthma register is regularly updated and Inhalers are kept in the classrooms and a record of use is noted. (See Asthma Policy)
- Staff training in Asthma and Epi -Pen usage is annually renewed
- Some children have allergies or food intolerances/cultural food choices- these are accommodated to the best of the catering staff's ability and financial limitations.
- All medical information is collated and available to staff, via our school First Aid Teaching Assistant (Mrs J Joyce). It is confidentially available on the staff notice board in the staff room. Each teacher is also kept abreast of relevant medical records and updates, via the School Inclusion manager/SENCO (Mrs E Lewis) and/or the First Aid TA.
- We have competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates; these are regularly renewed.
- All medication is kept in marked sealable plastic boxes in classrooms, out of reach of children unless it is required to be refrigerated, providing easy access for First Aiders and staff members. Administration of Medicines with a care plan is monitored by the First Aid TA – with available support from the School Nursing Team (Jo Beeman)

<b>Targets</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Success Criteria</b>
<b>EQUALITY AND INCLUSION</b>				
<i>To improve staff awareness of disability issues. Whole school community aware of issues.</i>	<i>Review staff training needs.</i>	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate.</i>	<i>That staff awareness of disability issues is improved.</i>
<i>To monitor inclusion and equality in all policy statements</i>	<i>Appoint an equality Governor to read policies from equality perspective</i>	<i>On-going.</i>	<i>Policies reflect current legislation and meets the needs of its community</i>	<i>That all policies consider the implications of disability access implicitly and or explicitly.</i>
<i>To improve communication with disabled pupils/users</i>	<i>To ensure the School website is clear, simple and easy to use</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Increased number of visits to website</i>	<i>Communication is improved</i>
<b>PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>				
<i>To ensure that, where possible, the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all children and adults and continue to improve access to the school's physical environment for all.</i>	<i>Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds by Governors. Suggest actions and implement as budget allows.</i>	<i>On-going</i>	<i>Modifications will be made to the school building to improve access</i>	<i>That, where possible, the school buildings and grounds are accessible for all children and adults and continue to improve access to the school's physical environment for all.</i>
<i>Continually monitor the environment for updates and changes</i>	<i>Pupil and Support/Premises staff observe and report environmental barriers</i>	<i>ongoing</i>	<i>The environment is safe</i>	<i>Where possible the environment is kept safe</i>
<b>CURRICULUM</b>				
<i>To continue to train staff to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEN.</i>	<i>SENCO to review the needs of children and provide training for staff as needed.</i>	<i>On-going.</i>	<i>Staff are able to enable all children to access the curriculum.</i>	<i>That staff training continues to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEN.</i>