

Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School

Accessibility Policy

School Accessibility Plan

Spring 2023 – 2024

1. Introduction

School's duties around accessibility for disabled pupils

Schools and LA's need to carry out accessibility planning for disabled pupils.

These are the same duties as previously existed under the Disability Discrimination Act and have been replicated in the **Equality Act 2010**.

Part 5A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) requires the governing body to:

- Promote equality of opportunity for disabled people: pupils, staff, parents, carers and other people who use the school or may wish to; and
- Prepare and publish a Disability Equality Scheme to show how they will meet these duties.

This **Accessibility Plan** is part of the **Disability Equality Scheme** and sets out how the governing body will improve equality of opportunity for disabled people.

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the DDA to cover education, so since 2002 the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled pupils under part 4 of the DDA.

- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for reasons related to their disability.
- To make reasonable adjustment for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage including potential adjustments which may be needed in the future.
- To plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

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:
- Improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services:
- Improving the delivery to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

It is a requirement that the school's **Accessibility Plan** is resourced, implemented and reviewed and revised as necessary.

This plan incorporates the school's intention to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

In drawing up the **Accessibility Plan** the school has set the following priorities:

- To provide safe access throughout the school for all school users, irrespective of their disability.
- To ensure that the teaching and learning environment and the resources used are suitable for all staff and pupils, tailoring the requirements to suit individual needs.
- To provide training to all staff regarding the needs of disabled people and how to provide assistance to enable them to enjoy the school experience as fully as possible.

1.1.1 At Holy Trinity School we are committed to promoting equality for all pupils, their parents, staff and other users of the school. This is reflected in our school mission statement, which states:

'Walking in the footsteps of Jesus:

We **care**, we share, we love, we learn'

1.1.2 It is the responsibility of the whole school community to implement this scheme in a manner which promotes the inclusive ethos of our school.

1.2 The Involvement of Disabled Children and Young People, Staff and Parents

In preparing this Accessibility Plan, disabled people, including pupils, parents and governors were involved as described in the Disability Equality Scheme. It has been informed by analysis of pupil & staff data and additional Information gathered.

2. According to the Act a "disabled person is defined as someone who has a Physical or mental impairment which has an effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities". The effect must be substantial, long term and adverse. The DDA definition of disability covers physical disabilities, sensory impairments and learning disabilities.
3. Holy Trinity School is committed to equal opportunities and inclusion. This Strategy should be considered alongside the following school policy documents:
 - Disability Equality Scheme
 - Special Educational Needs
 - Equal Opportunities
 - Inclusion
4. This plan considers the following three areas as identified in the introduction: Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school's curriculum by securing relevant staff training and ensuring appropriate classroom organisation

Improving the physical environment of the school such as ramps and a lift, as well as physical aids to access education such as specialist chairs and writing equipment.

Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is already provided to pupils who are not disabled. This should be done within a reasonable period of time and in formats that take account of any view expressed by pupils or parents about their preferred means of communication such as Braille, audio tape, large print and the provision of information orally.

5 Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the School curriculum

The school SEN policy ensures that staff identify, assess and arrange suitable provision for pupils with disabilities and special education needs. Working with the LA and Educational Psychology Service, the SENCO manages the Statutory Assessment Process, ensuring additional resources are available where appropriate.

The school has a learning mentor who provides additional support for pupils and teachers in implementing strategies for improving behaviour and access to learning.

The school works closely with specialist services including:

- Educational Psychologist
- Educational Mental Health Practitioner
- Speech & Language Team
- Quiet Place
- OSMEE (ASD specialist)
- CAMHS
- Merseyside Youth Association
- Liverpool Learning Partnership
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational Therapist
- Alder Hey Staff
- SENNIS
- School Nurse
- Family Support Service
- Exploring Futures
- Everton in the Community

6. Improving access to the physical environment of the school

This element of the Planning Duty covers all areas of the physical environment such as external areas, buildings and fixtures and fittings.

The aim is to continue to enhance the environment to meet the needs of all pupils and ensure that they have access to all aspects of education offered by Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School. This also extends to accessibility for adults. Likewise evacuation facilities i.e. Evac Chairs are in place.

7. Improving the delivery of information to disabled persons

Staff are aware of the services available and of the steps which must be followed in order to access additional support for any child.

8. This Access Improvement Plan is monitored by the Governors Resources Committee. In addition it will be reviewed three yearly following consultation with the school community, school council and questionnaires.
9. The school's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
10. The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.
11. The school will work in partnership with the Local Authority and Diocesan Authority, in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan.
12. The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Approved By Governors on:

Date:

Review Date: January 2024