

St Mark's CE Primary School

Accessibility Plan 2024 – 2028

Aims of school

The aim of our school is to encourage each child to achieve their full potential and develop a love of life and learning within a safe, happy and caring Christian community, ensuring all individuals feel valued and special. We promote the growth of Christian values so that pupils can learn to show tolerance, self-discipline, compassion and respect for themselves and for others.

At St Mark's we believe that every child should have access to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum.

Aims of the Accessibility Plan

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

Definition of disability

A person has a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

St Mark's Accessibility Plan has been drawn based upon information supplied by the Local Authority, and in conjunction with parents, staff and governors of the school and will advise other school documents. The Accessibility Plan will be reviewed annually in respect of progress and outcomes and provide a projected plan for the three years period ahead of the next review date. The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will be published on the school's website.

We are committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access and values 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 Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

The school's Accessibility Plan shows how access can be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school in a given time frame and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant and timely actions to:

- a) Increase access to **the curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; this covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in after-school clubs, leisure and cultural activities or school visits – it also covers provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe.
- b) Improve 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

- c) Improve the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe

The Accessibility Plan relates to key aspects of the physical environment, curriculum and written information.

Whole school training will recognise the need to continue to raise awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with school policies, strategies and documents including:

- Single Equality Policy
- Equality Objectives
- Health and Safety Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Security Policy

The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which was originally undertaken by the Local Authority and subsequently updated and remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of the Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school's website

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Governor Curriculum Committee

The school will work in partnership with the Local Authority in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan

The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during Inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010

September 2024