



ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

2023

Our Mission Statement

Our Lady of Grace RC Primary School recognises that each member of our community is unique and made in the image and likeness of God. Our School will encourage each member:

Through **WORK**, to develop his or her potential

Through **WORSHIP**, to learn to know and love God and His world

Through **WITNESS**, to proclaim to all the peace, joy and glory of God

As Catholics we live our faith through all aspects of our lives. Our Mission Statement underpins our thinking when implementing this procedure

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The purpose of this plan is to show how school intends to secure appropriate access to the school for disabled pupils.

LEGAL BACKGROUND

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting of progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

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:

He or she has a physical or mental impairment **and** the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. This plan sets out the proposals the school to secure appropriate access to education for disabled pupils in the three required key areas of; curriculum, environment and information:

- 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 before and 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 of information to disabled pupils, 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.

Our Lady of Grace RC 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 parental involvement and discussion.

THE CURRENT RANGE OF DISABILITIES WITHIN OUR LADY OF GRACE RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school has children with a limited range of disabilities which include Autistic Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, selective mutism, visual / hearing impairment and a small number of children with specific significant medical needs. When children enter school with specific disabilities, the school contacts the LA professionals for assessments, support and guidance for both school and parents in order for school to provide the best possible planned support for every child.

At Our Lady of Grace we have some 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 and these are included in the 'children with medical needs' details in classrooms and the main office.

All medical information is collated and available to staff in classroom files and from the school office. We have competent First Aiders who hold current First Aid certificates and a number of staff are trained in paediatric first aid. Medical care plans are drawn up by parents, school and medical professionals.

Any prescribed medication that is part of a long term medical care plan is kept either in secure First Aid cabinets, in the fridge or any other safe and suitably agreed place. Any medication that is administered during the school day by staff is recorded

EQUALITY AND INCLUSION

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes	Timescale
<i>To ensure that the Accessibility Plan becomes an item at Governor meetings at least every 3 years.</i>	<i>Delegated to Premises Committee</i>	<i>Adherence to legislation.</i>	<i>At least every 3 years</i>
<i>To improve staff awareness of disability issues.</i>	<i>Review staff training needs. Provide training for members of the school community as appropriate.</i>	<i>Whole school community aware of issues.</i>	<i>On-Going</i>
<i>To ensure that all policies consider the implications of disability access.</i>	<i>Consider during review of policies.</i>	<i>Policies reflect current legislation.</i>	<i>On-Going</i>
<i>To ensure this Accessibility Plan is reviewed at least every 3 years.</i>	<i>Premises Committee to discuss updates annually.</i>	<i>Accessibility Plan is up to date and fit for purpose.</i>	<i>At least every 3 years</i>

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes	Timescale
<i>To ensure that, adjustments to the school buildings and grounds maintain accessibility for all children and adults.</i>	<i>Audit of accessibility of school buildings and grounds when making building adjustments.</i>	<i>Modifications will be made to building / development proposals to maintain access.</i>	<i>On-Going</i>
<i>To ensure building upkeep/maintenance takes account of Accessibility requirements.</i>	<i>Consider colour/paint schemes for visual impairment needs when re-decorating. Maintain step edgings / outdoor ramps / footpaths / signs etc., to a good standard to secure on-going suitable access.</i>	<i>On-going school upgrade and maintenance will meet requirements</i>	<i>On-Going</i>

CURRICULUM

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes	Timescale
<i>To continue to train staff to enable them to meet the needs of children with a range of SEND.</i>	<i>SEND Lead to review the needs of children and provide training for staff as needed.</i>	<i>Staff are able to enable all children to access the curriculum.</i>	<i>On-Going</i>
<i>To ensure that all children are able to access, as far as is safe to do so, all out of school activities, e.g., clubs, trips, residential visits etc.</i>	<i>Review of out of school provision to ensure compliance with legislation.</i>	<i>All providers of out-of-school education will comply with legislation to ensure that the needs of all children are met.</i>	<i>On-Going.</i>
<i>To provide specialist equipment to promote participation in learning by all pupils.</i>	<i>Assess the needs of the children in each class and provide equipment as needed, e.g., special pencil grips, headphones, writing slopes, adaptive communication aids, aids for hearing etc.</i>	<i>Children will develop independent learning skills.</i>	<i>Reviewed termly by SEND Lead</i>
<i>To meet the needs of individuals during statutory end of KS2 tests.</i>	<i>Children will be assessed in accordance with regular classroom practice, and additional time, use of equipment etc. will be applied for as needed.</i>	<i>Barriers to learning will be reduced or removed, enabling children to achieve their full potential</i>	<i>Annually</i>

WRITTEN / OTHER INFORMATION

Objectives	Strategies	Outcomes	Timescale
<i>To ensure that all parents and other members of the school community can access information.</i>	<i>Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary and as required.</i>	<i>Written information will be provided in alternative formats as necessary.</i>	<i>As needed</i>
<i>To ensure that parents who are unable to attend school because of a disability can access parents' evenings.</i>	<i>Staff to hold parents evening by phone or send home written information. SLT to discuss other ways to enable parents with disabilities to access information.</i>	<i>Parents are informed of children's progress. Alternative solutions are agreed.</i>	<i>Termly</i>