



Accessibility Plan

Policy Reference: AC-F

Responsibility: Buildings and Finance Committee

Designation: Statutory

Reviewed by: V Ryan

This Review: May 2024

Next Review Due: May 2027

Cycle: Three yearly

Ratified by Full Governing Body on:

Signed:

Gerard Owens

Chair of Governors

At our school, with Jesus in our hearts, we have:

***The passion to learn;
The courage to fail; The
strength to love.***

With Christ as our guide and example we celebrate the uniqueness of the individual.

***Together we will try to:
Learn from Jesus;
Love like Jesus;
Live like Jesus.***

Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, prospective pupils and our adult users with a disability.

Policy Statement

Compliance with the EA is consistent with the federation's aims and policies and the operation of the federation's SEND policy.

The federation recognises its duty under the Equality Act (2010):

- not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
- not to treat disabled pupils less favourably
- to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
- to publish an 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 information to disabled pupils

In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (2002) by

- recognising and valuing parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.
- providing all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles;
- Endorsing the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
- setting suitable learning challenges
- responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual and groups of pupils.

Activity

a) Education & related activities

The federation will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.

b) Physical environment

The federation will take account of the needs of pupils and our adult users with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes, and more accessible facilities and fittings.

c) Provision of information

The federation will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

School Improvement Plan

SEND policy

Teaching for Learning policy

Anti-bullying Policy

Behaviour Policy

Action Plan – St Bernadette’s

Date of Plan: May 2024

Date of Review: May 2027

Member of staff responsible: Head of School/ Executive School Business Manager

Governor Committees responsible: Buildings and Finance Committee

The plan is also available in the following formats, on request to the school office: (e.g. email; enlarged print version; etc)

	Objective	What	How	When	Goal achieved
SHORT TERM	Ensure compliance with Equality Act (2010)	Staff and Governors informed of requirements and obligations of EA and of the Accessibility plan	Staff Meeting Governors meeting	Ongoing / renewal	School complies with requirements of EA
	Improve availability of written material in alternative forms (including non-visual guides) and for parents/carers whom English is an additional language.	School aware of local and county services for converting written information into alternative formats	SENCo researches and discusses with STA services	Ongoing	School able to deliver information to all pupils and parents with disabilities
	Improve visual contrast	Improve visual identification of doors, handles etc	Ensure thought is given to contrasting colours when redecorating	Ongoing	
	Improve children’s understanding of alternative forms of communication	Use existing expertise within school to teach signing and use alongside verbal communication.	CPD for all staff	On-going	Children respond to non-verbal communication.
MEDIUM TERM	Ensure paths are in good stable condition and free from loose materials, puddles, potholes	Include this planned work in school’s rolling works programme	Governing Body	Ongoing	Access will be safer for all visitors
	Install seating/ rest points between main gate and reception, as distance is greater than 50m	Provide bench with arm and back support provided	Purchase suitable bench	2025	Rest area available for all users.
	Improve acoustics for hearing impaired children, parents and visitors	Purchase portable induction loop	Investigate cost and source	2026	Induction loop in use

LONG TERM	Eliminate steps on fire routes where possible (E.g. school hall, exit leading to Paddock area)	Level exit routes from school where possible, especially fire exits	Identify which doors can feasibly be adapted and investigate cost	2027	Viable exits are level.
	Improve outdoor lighting	Ensure lighting is adequate for disabled access during darker hours	Improve outside lighting near side gate. Liaise with Farnborough Rugby Club	2027	Paths leading to and around school are well lit.

Action Plan – St Patrick’s

Date of Plan: May 2024

Date of Review: May 2027

Member of staff responsible: Head of School / Executive School Business Manager

Governor Committees responsible: Buildings and Finance

The plan is also available in the following formats, on request to the school office: email; enlarged print version, other languages

	Objective	What	How	When	Goal Achieved
SHORT TERM	Ensure compliance with Equality Act (2010)	Staff and Governors informed of requirements and obligations of EA and of the Accessibility plan	Staff Meeting Governors meeting	Ongoing	School complies with requirements of EA
	Improve availability of written material in alternative forms.	School aware of local and county services for converting written information into alternative formats	SENCo researches and discusses with STA services	Ongoing	School able to deliver information to all pupils and parents with disabilities
	Improve visual contrast	Improve visual identification of doors, handles etc	Ensure thought is given to contrasting colours when redecorating	Ongoing	

	Improve wheelchair access around school	Improve storage to enable classrooms and corridors to be clear of obstacles	Reorganisation of classrooms and purchase of storage	Ongoing	On-going monitoring of obstacles
	Improve children's understanding of alternative forms of communication	From Reception class teach signing and use alongside verbal communication.	Year R teacher to provide CPD for staff	Ongoing	Children respond to non-verbal communication.

	Objective	What	How	When	Goal Achieved
MEDIUM TERM	Improve acoustics for hearing impaired children, parents and visitors	Purchase portable induction loop	Investigate cost and source	2025	Induction loop in use
	Improve wheelchair access to outside areas	Install ramp to gazebo and improve woodland walk pathways	Investigate materials and focused work during grounds force day	2025	Woodland walk and gazebo accessible to wheelchair users
	Improve access to and enjoyment of gardening areas for those with hearing/vision impairment and mobility issues	Raised beds Sensory garden	Source materials Grounds force event	2025	Raised beds and sensory garden easily accessible.

	Objective	What	How	When	Goal Achieved
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LONG TERM	Create a level access work area for staff	Install a roof over the courtyard for the library and turn the current library into a staff work room	Investigate cost and sources of funding	2027	
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