



"With Christ as our guide, we let our light shine."

Accessibility Policy

'Whatever you've done for the least of these brothers of mine you've done for me.'

Mt 25:35

1 Introduction

This document meets the requirements of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on their ability to undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments, such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a pupil with disabilities faces in comparison with a pupil without disabilities. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

2 Key Objective

To reduce and eliminate barriers in accessing the curriculum and to promote full participation in the School community for all pupils and prospective pupils with a disability.

3 Principles

- Compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act is consistent with the values of our school and the operation of the School's Special Needs Policy.
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School recognises its duty under the Equality Act.
- Not to discriminate against pupils in admission or exclusion and provision of education and associated services.

- Not to treat pupils who are disabled less favourably for a reason related to their disability.
- To take reasonable steps to avoid putting pupils who are disabled at a substantial disadvantage.
- In performing their duties, Governors and Staff will have regard to the Disability Rights Commission.
- The School recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effects on his/her ability to carry out normal activities and respect the parents' and child's right to confidentiality.
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School aims to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles.
- Setting suitable learning challenges
- Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

4 Education and Related Activities

Here at St Mary's Catholic Primary School we will take into account the needs of the pupils and visitors 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. We always take advice from outside agencies to ensure that all pupils/ staff and visitors can fully participate and engage with all opportunities.

5 Provision of Information

St Mary's Catholic Primary School will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the Local Authority, for providing information about accessibility when requested.

6 Linked Policies/Documents

SEN Policy

Admission Policy

Reviewed: 2024

Review Date: 2027