St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'With God in our hearts, we learn and grow together on our journey through life.'

Accessibility Plan

Approved:	**Spring 2024**	
Review Date:	**Spring 2027**	
Signed: (Headteacher)		**Lorraine Flower**
Signed: (Chair of Governors)		**Andy Waterworth**

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and this policy supports this commitment.

Vision

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School promotes a positive attitude towards diversity and is committed to providing a service that is responsive to the needs and aspirations of the diverse community it serves. This commitment is therefore reflected in the school's accessibility strategy. The strategy encourages a proactive approach to improving access for pupils with disabilities. The strategy has regard to the duties as outlined in the Equalities Act 2010 and in particular the main duties:

- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability
- To make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils so they are not at a substantial disadvantage

The accessibility strategy outlines the steps the school is taking to improve access for pupils with a disability. The strategy aims to promote a proactive approach to improving access by:

- Ensuring that the rights of pupils with disabilities are upheld
- Supporting the aims and aspirations of pupils with a disability
- Improving access to information, curriculum and the environment
- Creating a positive attitude towards disability and challenge negative perceptions
- Developing a culture of awareness, acceptance and inclusion

It is recognised that many of these steps will benefit all school users.

Disability is defined in law as a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on the ability to do normal day to day activities. Pupils with learning difficulties are likely to be protected by the act as well as those with conditions such as autism or ADHD, physical disabilities, mental health conditions and difficulties with hearing and sight. For more information follow this link: https://www.gov.uk/definition-of-disability-under-equality-act-2010

Consultation, Implementation and Review

1. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Accessibility Plan has been drawn up in conjunction with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school. The Accessibility Plan will be reported upon every 2 years in respect of progress and outcomes, and provide a projected plan for the four-year 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 website.

2. St Joseph's Catholic Primary Accessibility Plan shows how accessibility is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school. The Plan will contain relevant and timely actions to:
   - increase access to the **curriculum** for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as other 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 the provision of specialist or **auxiliary aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;

- improve the **physical environment** to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided. This includes adding specialist facilities as necessary;
- improve the availability of **accessible information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples might include hand-outs, timetables and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

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

4. The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with other relevant policies including:

- Equality Policy Information and Objectives
- Health & Safety Policy
- Behaviour Policy

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Accessibility Plan 2023 - 2026

SENDCo - (Special Educational Needs Coordinator)

Priority	**Action**	**Who**	**Timescale**	**Outcome**
To ensure all staff are aware of the needs of the pupils in their class – the list of SEND and pupils with medical needs is updated every term and kept in each class clearly visible to all staff.	An updated list of SEN and children with medical needs is updated once a term and is accessible to all who teach the class.	Office staff and SENDCo	Termly	All staff in room aware of needs
To ensure all school visits including residential journeys are accessible to all pupils including those with SEND by discussing needs with parents, carrying out risk assessments and making reasonable adjustments.	There are no barriers to the participation of pupils with SEND in school visits and journeys	SENDCo Headteacher	Ongoing	All children able to attend
To provide support for parents of children with SEND	Signpost sources of support for parents of pupils with SEND and medical needs on website and local offer. Meet with parents of children with SEND x 3 times per year to discuss learning passports.	SENDCo Office staff	Ongoing	Parents have access to support and advice when needed.
To ensure all staff have up to date knowledge of the medical needs of children with the most common difficulties (asthma, diabetes, allergies)	Health and Safety policy updated and shared with staff. Specific training on asthma and epipen every three years	SENDCo	Ongoing	Ongoing CPD for all staff