



St Thomas à Becket CE (Aided) Primary School

With faith and nurture we flourish

Accessibility Plan

STATUTORY	
Policy agreed	17 TH May 2017
Policy published	
Next review date	May 2020
Approved by	FGB
Delegate to:	Committee
	Individual governor
	Head teacher
Related documents	SEN Policy School Development Plan

Accessibility Plan

INTRODUCTION

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA). It draws on the guidance set out in "Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils", issued by DCSF in July 2002.

St Thomas à Becket School's buildings and approach routes are not well designed to meet the needs of disabled pupils.

- a. Approaches to the entrance largely involve travel over a rough tarmac road, with the final access of about 15 metres is over a tarmac path.
- b. Access to classrooms that are mainly on the ground floor in the main building but does have one upstairs study area, offers relatively easy access.
- c. Access to the Kestrel classroom offers wheelchair access to what is otherwise a ground floor room.

d. A disabled toilet was installed in December 2008.

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) as:

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

Key Objective

To reduce and eventually eliminate barriers to access and thereby provide the ability for pupils and teaching staff, and where appropriate, other adults, to participate fully in all parts of the curriculum and other school and community activities.

PRINCIPLES

Compliance with the DDA is consistent with the school's aims and equal opportunities policy, and the operation of the school's SEN policy:

The school recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA):

- a. Not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services.
- b. Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably.
- c. To take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage.
- d. To publish an Accessibility Plan.

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

- a. The school recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his/her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects their rights to confidentiality.
- b. The school provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum.
 - a. Setting suitable learning challenges.
 - b. Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs.

- f. Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual and groups of pupils.

ACTIVITY

St Thomas à Becket School has identified the following points for action in order to achieve the key objective:

- a. Delivery of the curriculum
- b. School staff receive training in making the curriculum accessible to all pupils, and are aware of its importance.
- c. The school 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.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The school will take account of the needs of pupils and other 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.

PROVISION OF INFORMATION IN OTHER FORMATS

The school is 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.

- a. School Development Plan
- b. SEN policy