Accessibility Policy and Action Plan 2024 - 2025

St Mark's CE Primary School

Approver	Date of approval	Date of next review
Local Governing Body	November 2020 Awaiting ratification by governors January 2024	January 2025

The Governors have paid due regard to the impact of all aspects of equality in the approving of this policy

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Under the Equality Act 2010, schools should have an Accessibility Policy and Plan. The Accessibility Action Plan must be reviewed every year, provide a projected plan for the year ahead of the review date and be approved by the Governing Body.

The Accessibility Policy with Action Plan is structured to complement and support the Disability Equality Scheme (DES). The Policy and Plan will be published on the school website.

We are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all pupils, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

The St Mark's CE Primary School Accessibility Action Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school. A person has a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. The Accessibility Action Plan will contain relevant actions to:

- improve access to the **physical environment** of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education;

- 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 are the able-bodied pupils; (If a school fails to do this they are in breach of the DDA); 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 **aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum;

- improve the delivery of **written information** to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include handouts, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

The Accessibility Action Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors of the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 & 2001.

The Accessibility Action Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:

Curriculum
Staff Development
Inclusion
Behaviour Management
Asset Management Plan
Teaching and Learning File
Equal Opportunities and Diversity
Health & Safety (including off-site safety)
Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities
School Improvement Plan
School Brochure and Mission Statement

The Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during inspection processes in relation to Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

St Mark's CE Primary School Accessibility Plan 2024 - 2025

Improving the Physical Access at St Mark's CE Primary School

As a new build, St Mark's offers the following Access services:

Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost £
External and internal access via ramps			
Disabled toilets			
Disabled lift			
Fire alarm system			
Safe and timely evacuation of all disabled pupils/staff as and when required	Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans are reviewed regularly		

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Improving the Curriculum Access at St Mark's CE Primary School School

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Timeframe	Achievement
Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum	Be aware of staff training needs on curriculum access.	All teachers are able to more fully meet the requirements of SEND children's needs with regards to accessing the curriculum	Ongoing	Increase in access to the National Curriculum
All out-of-school activities are planned, where appropriate alongside the PE lead, to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils	Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation	All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements	Ongoing	Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils
Classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases	Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual pupils	Ongoing apart of termly learning walks	Increase in access to the National Curriculum
To ensure the needs of physically disabled pupils are met.	Moving and Handling training and training from Physiotherapist for all Reception staff and SENCo. Where and when required	All staff to be fully prepared and confident in meeting the needs of physically disabled pupil – where and when required	Ongoing training as required.	Increase in access to all school activities for all disabled pupils
Ensure all staff are aware of guidance on accessible formats.	Guidance and support for staff on dyslexia and strategies/resources available.	Dyslexia friendly classrooms.	Ongoing	Increase in access to all school activities for pupils with specific learning difficulties.

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Improving the Delivery of Written Information at St Mark's CE Primary School

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Review information to parents/carers to ensure it is accessible to all.	Provide information and letters in clear print. School office/SENCO/teachers will support and help parents to access information and complete school forms.	All parents/carers receive information in a form they can access.	As required	All school information available for all
Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with visual impairment	Provide enlarged, clear print and use matt laminates for pupils/parents/staff with visual impairment.	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual difficulties improved.	As required	All school information available for all
Provide information in other languages for pupils or prospective pupils	Access to translators or sign language interpreters to be considered and offered if possible	All pupils/parents/carers receive information in a form they can access	As required	All school information available for all
Provide support to parents for form filling, online applications and sharing materials (homework/letters)	Provide support to parents identified at initial parent meetings who may require help in accessing forms and letters	Where required – parents receive support in filling in forms and reading through letters	As required	All school information available for all