



*Live, Love and Learn Like Jesus*

## **St Patrick's Catholic Primary School - The Accessibility Plan**

The Equality Act 2010 aims to protect disabled people and prevent disability discrimination. It provides legal rights for disabled people in all areas of life including education. It is unlawful for a school to treat disabled people unfavourably.

Under this Act a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to perform normal day-to-day activities. Unfavourable treatment could include direct discrimination, indirect discrimination, discrimination arising from a disability and harassment. In addition, the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 years gives practical guidance on how to identify and assess children with Special Educational Needs. Since 1 January 2015 Local Educational Authorities and schools have been obliged to take account of this Code.

### **Accessibility**

There is specific disability legislation in relation to disabled pupils and accessibility which means there must be access to:

1. the curriculum.
2. the physical environment of the school.
3. written information for pupils in a range of different ways.

### **Aims**

We aim to:

- provide full access to facilities and learning;
- enable full participation in all aspects of school life for children, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities.

We will do this by:

- reducing and eliminating barriers to access of the curriculum and the building;
- promoting positive attitudes and developing a culture of respect;
- having awareness of the needs of individuals within our school community;
- being flexible in approach to obstacles and seeking expert advice if needed.

At St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, the accessibility of our building is important for all pupils. Our school building has all of its rooms on the ground floor which are accessible from the outside area.

Outside the school building there is an allocated parking bay in the school car park for people with disabilities. All of the immediate outside areas around our school building have a concrete path around them.

Our school is committed to providing all children with every opportunity to achieve their potential in every aspect of school life.

When a request is received from parents or the Local Authority for a pupil to attend the school, professional advice from Support Services and other relevant professionals will be sought when necessary, to enable an assessment of the individual's needs to be made. This will include access to the various parts of the school and the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Parents and carers of pupils with disabilities will be consulted to identify and where possible, remove any obstacles to learning. Such obstacles could include physical, sensory, learning



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difficulties or emotional or social development as well as the learning environment experienced within the school.

The Staff at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School value pupils of different abilities. The National Curriculum will be implemented to meet the specific needs of individuals and groups of children by :

- setting suitable learning challenges, including incorporating SEN Support targets, My Support Plans and EHCP targets,
- responding to children's diverse learning needs,
- overcoming potential barriers to learning for individuals and groups of pupils, by accessing adult support, intervention programmes, tailored speech and language therapy programmes, use of Information and Computer Technology (ICT) and visual aids,
- ensuring individuals are able to access other curricular opportunities outside the National Curriculum such as school trips, after school clubs, Forest School and special events; sports days and visits.

When planning their work, the staff will take in to account the abilities and needs of all the children and provide differentiated work accordingly. This may involve modifying learning objectives, teaching styles and access strategies.

Monitoring of progress will be carried out by class teachers, the Senior Leadership Team including the Head teacher and the SEND Coordinator and, when appropriate, the Governing Body.

This is used to inform future planning of provisions to meet each individual's needs. This could include applying for examination concessions when appropriate.

Most written information can be presented in different formats to make it accessible. This includes:

- differentiation of class work and home learning tasks,
- visual presentation of information and timetables,
- use of appropriate fonts and font sizes.

The school is aware that the Local Authority is able to provide translation services and Braille copies if required.

This Accessibility Policy will be:

- reviewed annually with the Health and Safety policy.
- incorporated into the School Improvement Plan
- shared with all members of staff
- available on the school website.

Reviewed: December 2023

Next Review date: December 2024