

# St. John's C.E. Primary School



## Vision Statement

*Shine like stars*

*Through God's love, we will flourish and develop our gifts in our nurturing community, as we strive to be an inspiration to all.*

**'Your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.'**

**Matthew 5:16**

**Policy: Accessibility Policy**

**Reviewed: May 2025**

**Ratified by the Governing Body: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**Future Review: May 2027**

**St John's CE Primary School is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment, and a curriculum that is accessible for all. We value our whole school community.**

This plan should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- SEND Policy and Information Report
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policies
- School Prospectus

We believe that this accessibility plan is compliant with current legislation and requirements as outlined in the Equality Act 2010, Schedule 10 (which incorporates the SEN and Disability Act, 2001 and the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), 1995).

Definition of Disability The definition of disability under the law is a wide one.

- A disabled person is someone who has a physical or mental impairment that has an adverse, substantial and long-term effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities (DDA 1995).

The DDA 2005 has also extended the definition of disability as follows: People with HIV, multiple sclerosis and cancer (although not all cancers) are deemed disabled before they experience the long-term and substantial adverse effect on their activities. Section 18 has been amended so that individuals with a mental illness no longer have to demonstrate that it is "clinically well-recognised", although the person must still demonstrate a long-term and substantial adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

This plan details the access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the Disability Discrimination Act: participation in the curriculum, physical access to facilities and services and availability of information.

At St John's CE Primary School, we:

- are an inclusive school – making sure that all pupils, staff, parents and visitors feel supported and valued
- identify and remove barriers to learning
- ensure resources are appropriate to enable all pupils to access the curriculum
- continued staff development so that teachers and teaching assistants can effectively support the needs of all pupils
- have an ongoing review process of Educational Health Care Plans and Individual Educational Plans
- regularly meet with parents
- work with the wider community and outside agencies
- ensure that the premises are fit for purpose in terms of accessibility
- regularly assess the premises for accessibility and make changes as necessary

The Disability Discrimination Act Audit outlines all areas in the 3 planning duties:

- Increasing access for disabled pupils to the curriculum
- Improving access to the physical environment
- Improving the delivery of written information to disabled pupils

A recent Audit of the Building has been completed.

At St John's we:

- plan in advance (where possible) for any new disabled pupils starting the school
- identify pupils with disabilities and keep their records up to date
- plan for individual pupils so that everyone has access to the curriculum
- give pupils appropriate time and equipment for accessing tasks
- provide additional adult support and specialist support where required
- have disabled toilet facilities for children, staff and visitors
- have a new website which is more accessible for all stakeholders to access information
- have iPads and laptops for pupils to use
- we ensure all staff know how to meet the needs of disabled children by:
  - having regular updates for staff to attend
  - providing relevant training for staff
  - displaying the medical needs of pupils in the Staff Room

St John's CE Primary School is all on one level and accessible to all. We have:

- a flat path outside of the building leading to all classrooms
- adequate space for blue badge holders in car park
- a gated entrance that can only be accessed by a fob or allowed video entry
- security has been improved with a new reception area
- corridors and classrooms are tidy and clear for easy access
- signs to make areas of the school easy to get to

St John's CE Primary School will take account of the needs of pupils, staff and visitors with physical disabilities and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises.

To ensure the future of the accessibility plan this plan should become less of an independent strategy and more of a thread running through all the school's plans and policies.