



“Let your light shine” Matthew 5:16

Accessibility Policy and Plan Policy 42 2023 to 2024

Date: Revised February 2023

Next Review: February 2024

1. Introduction

All schools must have an Accessibility Plan. This is required by law (the Equality Act 2010).

Accessibility Plans set out how, over time, a school will:

- a) increase access to the curriculum for disabled pupils;
- b) improve the physical environment of the school to increase access for disabled pupils; and
- c) make written information more accessible to disabled pupils by providing information in a range of different ways.

A person has a disability if they have a **physical** or **mental impairment** that has a **substantial** and **long-term** adverse effect on their ability to carry out **normal day-to-day activities**.

This is the Accessibility Plan for All Saints CE VC Primary School

2. Other policies

Our Accessibility Plan complements and supports our:

- *Special educational needs and disability* policy and related *SEN information report*;
- policy for *Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions*; and our
- Equality Information and Equality Objectives.

It should also be read alongside the following school policies, strategies and documents:

- Curriculum Policy
- Health & Safety Policy (including off-site safety)
- School Development Plan

3. Our vision and aims

All Saints CE VC Primary School wants everyone within our school to feel welcome, valued and included in the school community. We are committed to providing a fully accessible environment to enable this to happen.

Our pupils are provided with high quality learning opportunities so that each child achieves all that they can. We want all our pupils to feel confident and have a positive view of themselves.

We want our pupils with a disability to access all elements of school life, including school clubs, activities and trips. We recognise that we may have to do things a little differently to make this happen.

We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010, by removing disadvantage faced by pupils with a disability and eliminating discrimination.

We will ensure that through whole school training, all staff and governors will be aware of our duties to support children with disabilities, in line with the Equality Act 2010.

In implementing our Accessibility Plan, we will take into account the views, wishes and feelings of our pupils and their families.

4. Current good practice

Identification

All Saints CE VC Primary School asks for information on any disabilities or health conditions in early communications with new parents and carers. We also carefully observe our pupils' progress and behaviour and will discuss any concerns with parents and carers, as necessary.

(Please see our SEND Policy for further details)

Curriculum

All Saints CE VC Primary School has improved access to the curriculum for disabled pupils through the following means:

- using multimedia activities and interactive ICT equipment (Interactive Whiteboards and iPads) to support specific curriculum areas, e.g. numeracy and literacy;
- providing a differentiated curriculum, designed according to need and where necessary with specialist input, for those pupils that require this;
- offering a Continued Professional Development (CPD) programme to ensure that all staff are knowledgeable of the impact of ASD, epilepsy, attachment disorder (and any other special need that presents itself), on learning;
- organising classrooms so that they promote the participation and independence of all pupils;
- staff INSET training regarding sensory impairments and the school environment;
- modifying worksheets and curriculum content into large font for pupils with a visual impairment (VI).]
- Members of staff are deployed according to identified needs within the school to ensure needs are met.

Physical Environment

All Saints CE VC Primary School has already improved the physical environment of the school to increase access for disabled pupils by:

- providing flat or ramped access to all school entrances;
- dedicating one parking bay outside the main school entrance for pupils and families, and visitors with a disability;
- providing an accessible toilet;
- ensuring that there is good lighting throughout school, making use of natural light where possible and reducing glare through the use of roller blinds in the hallway and classrooms;
- removing and fixing of potential trip hazards and keeping all floor spaces uncluttered;
- applying acoustic panels to walls and ceilings to improve sound quality for pupils with a hearing impairment;
- providing fabric blinds, curtains, carpets and rubber seals to doors to improve sound quality;
- ensuring data projectors, plumbing and heating are regularly serviced and not too noisy wherever possible.

Information

All Saints CE VC Primary School already makes written information more accessible to disabled pupils through:

- Reviewing written information so that it can be made available in alternative formats for those who require it;
- adhering to guidelines from specialists (such as the Hearing and Vision Support Services) regarding the presentation of all written information, paying attention to layout and colour;
- using social stories and picture symbols to explain school rules for pupils who benefit from this.

5. Implementation

Our Accessibility Plan shows how access to All Saints CE VC Primary School will be improved for disabled pupils (and for staff and visitors to the school) and anticipates how we will make reasonable adjustments to support them whenever possible. We will ensure that we do so within a reasonable timeframe.

Reasonable adjustments are positive actions that help pupils with a disability to fully participate in school life.

In doing this, we have thought about:

- how to ensure disabled pupils are as prepared for life as their non-disabled peers;
- how we can encourage pupils with a disability to take part in after school clubs, leisure and cultural activities and school visits;
- how we might provide auxiliary aids and services (something or someone that provides help or support) to pupils with a disability to support their access to the curriculum;
- adding specialist facilities to our school as necessary and improving the physical environment;
- how we can improve the delivery of written information, including making this available in various preferred formats and within a reasonable timeframe.

Our Accessibility Plan has been written based upon information from the Local Authority (or site surveyor) and in liaison with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school. It will advise other school planning documents.

All Saints CE VC Primary School will work in partnership with Dorset Council in developing and implementing this Accessibility Plan and will adopt in principle the *Local Authority Strategy for Accessibility*.

Environmental or physical works undertaken in the school to improve access will follow and be guided by the relevant building regulations as advised by the Site Surveyor and the *Local Authority Strategy for Accessibility*.

We will consult with experts when new situations regarding pupils with disabilities are experienced.

All Saints CE VC Primary School's Accessibility Plan will be implemented by Mr Nigel Roberts, Headteacher. Sufficient resources will be allocated by All Saints CE VC Primary School to implement this Accessibility Plan.

6. Monitoring

The All Saints CE VC Primary School Accessibility Plan covers a four year period but will be reviewed regularly and updated if needed. It will be monitored through the Governor Finance Committee.

The governing body will monitor All Saints CE VC Primary School's activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility and Schedule 13 regarding Reasonable Adjustments) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.

The All Saints CE VC Primary School's Accessibility Plan may be monitored by Ofsted during Inspection processes in relation to Schedules 10 and 13 of the Equality Act 2010.

The All Saints CE VC Primary School's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.

ALL SAINTS CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN - 2023 to 2024 : Improving access to the curriculum

| What needs to be done? | How will this be achieved? | Who is responsible? | When will this be done? | How can we tell if this is successful? |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| To provide more staff training to meet special needs | All staff to undergo a programme of training in a number of additional needs | Headteacher SENCO | Rolling programme | All children able to access all areas of the curriculum and work towards attaining age related expectation |
| All pupils to be mentally healthy | Mental Health support PSHE Chance to Talk ELSA | Headteacher SENCO ELSA | As required | All children able to access all areas of the curriculum and work towards attaining age related expectation |
| All staff aware of curricular needs of individual pupils | Staff aware of the needs of specific pupils and the resources available to support them | Headteacher SENCO | Inset with whole staff / class teams as required. | All children able to access all areas of the curriculum and work towards attaining age related expectation |
| Ensure P.E continues to be accessible to all. | Minimal interventions during PE PE kit provided when necessary Help with payment for kit where necessary | Headteacher Class Teacher Office | Ongoing | All children access PE |
| All out of school activities planned to ensure, where reasonable, participation of all pupils. | Risk Assessments in place to include all children in school trips where possible. Help with payment where necessary | Headteacher Activity organiser | Pre and post trip evaluation | Maximum participation Safe activities |
| To ensure classrooms are organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils with SEND needs | Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class/teaching group bases | Headteacher Class Teacher | Ongoing | Pupils feel relaxed and settled in learning spaces |
| <i>To support and challenge all pupils</i> | Quality First Teaching Pre teach Post teach Additional support Regular challenge | Governors Headteacher All class staff | Ongoing | All children able to access all areas of the curriculum and work towards attaining age related expectation |

ALL SAINTS CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN - 2023 to 2024: Improving the physical environment

| What needs to be done? | How will this be achieved? | Who is responsible? | When will this be done? | How can we tell if this is successful? |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--|
| <p>Ensure outside areas of the school, specifically the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Car parking – disabled bay markings ◦ Paving ◦ External lighting ◦ External steps ◦ Delivery vehicular access / kitchen area are kept in a good state of repair. ◦ Swimming pool are accessible to all | <p>H & S Inspections Maintenance</p> | <p>Headteacher Caretaker H&S Governor</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>The areas outside of the school building are safe and welcoming and the physical environment is improved by removing any hazards;</p> <p>Pupils with disabilities and their families are easily and quickly able to access the school building.</p> |
| <p>Make changes to the building to meet the needs of any additional pupils</p> | <p>Assessing pupil's needs Expert advice Liaising with parents / carers</p> | <p>Headteacher Caretaker H&S Governor Dorset Council</p> | <p>When required</p> | <p>Access to all areas for all pupils</p> |

ALL SAINTS CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL ACCESSIBILITY PLAN - 2023 to 2024: Making written information more accessible

| What needs to be done? | How will this be achieved? | Who is responsible? | When will this be done? | How can we tell if this is successful? |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Information for parents/ carers to be clear for all. | Redesign of school website | Office | Ongoing | Parent feedback |
| All required documents published on school website | Monitor Updating Termly checks | Headteacher Deputy Office | Ongoing | Monitoring termly |
| Offer letters / correspondence via email, text, website, school app and hard copy | Using available technology | Office | Ongoing | A well informed school community |