



St Hilary School
Accessibility Plan –
To be read in conjunction with the Accessibility Action Plan.

Introduction

At St. Hilary School 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 challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

Rationale

St. Hilary School plans, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.

We believe that this Accessibility Plan is compliant with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010. School Governors are accountable for ensuring the implementation, review and reporting on progress of the Accessibility Plan over a prescribed period.

Procedure

1. The St Hilary School Accessibility Plan has been drawn in conjunction with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school and will advise other school planning documents. The Accessibility Plan will be reported upon annually in respect of progress and outcomes, and provide a projected plan for the four year period ahead of the next review date. This plan was updated in February 2013 to reflect new statutory requirements for the setting of Equality Objectives.
2. The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives, and will similarly be published on the school website. We understand that the LA will monitor the school's activity under the Equality Act 2010 (and in particular Schedule 10 regarding Accessibility) and will advise upon the compliance with that duty.
3. We are committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that 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.

4. The St Hilary School Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school in a given timeframe and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable.

The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant and timely actions to:

- 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 duties under the Equalities Act 2010); 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 or **auxiliary aids and equipment**, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe;
- 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 within a reasonable timeframe;
- 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 timeframe.

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

6. Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff and governors on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

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

- Curriculum Policy
- Equality Objectives
- Continuing Professional Development Policy
- Health & Safety Policy (including off-site safety)
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Behaviour Management Policy
- School Development Plan
- Asset Management Plan / Suitability Survey
- School Brochure / Prospectus and Vision Statement

8. The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which was originally undertaken by the Local Authority and subsequently updated by the school and remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of this

Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school prior to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the ongoing period.

9. Equality Impact Assessments will be undertaken as and when school policies are reviewed.

The terms of reference for all governors' committees will include the need to consider Equality and Diversity issues as required by the Equality Act 2010.

10. The School Brochure / Prospectus will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.

11. The School's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.

12. The Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.

13. The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Premises, Site management and safeguarding committee.

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

Signatures:

Head teacher: Mrs K Butcher

Date: 11th November 2014

Chair of governors: Mr D Sharp

Date: 11th November 2014

To be reviewed: Spring 2016