

# St Mary's Primary School

## Accessibility Plan January 2026 - 2029

### Aims of the Accessibility Plan

This plan outlines how St Mary's Primary School aims to improve access to education for pupils with disabilities as required by the planning duties in the Equality Act 2010. While this plan primarily addresses statutory duties for pupils and staff with disabilities, St Mary's also seeks to remove barriers for all individuals who may experience difficulties accessing the curriculum, environment, or information.

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 plan aims to:

- Increase the extent to which pupils with disabilities can participate in the curriculum.
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable pupils with disabilities to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided.
- Improve the availability of accessible information to pupils with disabilities.

The above aims will be delivered within a reasonable timeframe, and in ways which are determined after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the views of parents and pupils. With regard to the government's accessibility strategy, the LA must allocate adequate resources in the implementation of this strategy.

The governing board also recognises its responsibilities towards employees with disabilities and will:

- Monitor recruitment procedures to ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided with equal opportunities.
- Provide appropriate support and provision for employees with disabilities to ensure that they can carry out their work effectively without barriers.
- Undertake reasonable adjustments to enable staff to access the workplace.

The plan will be resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised in consultation with:

- Pupils' parents.
- The headteacher and other relevant members of staff.
- Governors.
- External partners.
- Our Lady Help of Christians Multi-academy Trust

This plan is reviewed every three years to take into account the changing needs of the school and its pupils. The plan is also reviewed where the school has undergone a refurbishment.

### Digital and Web Accessibility

St Mary's Primary School is committed to ensuring that all digital platforms, including our school website and online learning resources, are accessible to everyone. In line with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 and guidance from the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), we aim to design and develop digital content so that people with disabilities can:

- **Perceive** information presented in different formats (e.g., text, images, audio).
- **Understand** content and functionality without unnecessary complexity.

- **Navigate** easily using assistive technologies such as screen readers.
- **Interact** effectively with online tools and resources.

We will regularly review our digital content to ensure compliance with accessibility standards (such as WCAG 2.1) and provide alternative formats upon request. Staff will receive training on creating accessible documents and resources to support inclusive learning.

## Digital Accessibility Compliance Statement

St Mary's Primary School is committed to ensuring our website and online resources meet the requirements of the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018. Our website, provided by Juniper Websites, includes an Accessibility Statement and high-visibility mode to support users with visual impairments.

We aim to conform to **WCAG 2.1 Level AA** standards and will:

- Regularly audit our website using accessibility tools (e.g., WAVE, axe).
- Address any identified issues promptly.
- Provide alternative formats upon request.
- Offer a clear feedback mechanism for users experiencing barriers.

## The accessibility audit

- 1.1. The governing board will undertake a regular Accessibility Audit.
- 1.2. The audit will cover the following three areas:
  - **Access to the curriculum** – the governing board will assess the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access the curriculum on an equal basis with their peers.
  - **Access to the physical environment** – the governing board will assess the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access the physical environment on an equal basis with their peers.
  - **Access to information** – the governing board will assess the extent to which pupils with disabilities can access information on an equal basis with their peers.
- 1.3. When conducting the audit, the governing board will consider all kinds of disabilities and impairments, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - **Ambulatory disabilities** – this includes pupils who use a wheelchair or mobility aid
  - **Dexterity disabilities** – this includes those whose everyday manual handling of objects and fixtures may be impaired
  - **Visual disabilities** – this includes those with visual impairments and sensitivities
  - **Auditory disabilities** – this includes those with hearing impairments and sensitivities
  - **Comprehension** – this includes hidden disabilities, such as autism and dyslexia
- 1.4. The findings from the audit will be used to identify short, medium and long-term actions to address specific gaps and improve access.
- 1.5. All actions will be carried out in a reasonable timeframe, and after taking into account pupils' disabilities and the preferences of their parents.
- 1.6. The actions that will be undertaken are detailed in the following sections of this document.

## Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- RE policy
- RSE policy
- Equality policy and action plan
- Health and safety policy
- Special educational needs (SEN) policy
- Administration of medicines
- Anti-bullying policy
- Behaviour policy
- Child protection and safeguarding policy
- PHSE and citizenship policy

Please see the Access to Curriculum Action Plan below.

## Access to Curriculum – action plan

Target	Who	Timescale	Outcomes / Success Criteria	Complete
Learning aids to be produced	SENCO	Ad hoc	Resources from whole school training made and available for use e.g. dyslexia friendly resources, recording devices and resources for visually impaired pupils	In line with current pupils' needs
Intervention training for support staff	SENCO	Ongoing	Support staff able to work with increased knowledge and provide appropriate resources for pupils	In line with current needs
Learning support meetings to take place to assess and address pupil needs.	SENCO  Teachers  TAs	Annual EHCP Assessment timeframes Termly provision maps Weekly TA SEND meetings	Pupil needs reviewed and being addressed.	In line with pupils' personal plans
Training for teachers on differentiating the curriculum for disabled children as required.	Headteacher	Ad hoc	Teachers are able to more fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs with regards to accessing the curriculum.	Yes
Staff trained to meet individual medical needs of pupils where applicable.	School Nurse/occupational therapist	Ad hoc	Staff completed training for specific needs.	First Aid training for staff Pediatric First Aid for selected members of staff
Annual training on pedagogy such as retrieval practice and metacognition	Headteacher/ SLT/School provider	Ad hoc	Staff meetings held to disseminate practice CC attended training	Yes

## Access to the Physical Environment – action plan

Target	Who	Timescale	Outcomes / Success Criteria	Complete
Ensure each area of the school has wheelchair access and egress.	Headteacher		The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils Portable ramp purchased for classroom access from outside.	Yes
Maintain disabled access toilet	Headteacher		A disabled access toilet available in the foyer and in the chapel corridor with changing facilities.	Yes
All internal doors accessible for wheelchair users.	Headteacher		Deputy / Headteacher Doors are wheelchair accessible.	Yes
Regular visits by Paediatric Occupational Therapist from Central Cheshire Integrated Care Partnership (CCICP)	Headteacher		Regular visits are conducted by Bonnie Nacollis, CCICP	Yes

## Access to Information – action plan

Target	Who	Timescale	Outcomes / Success Criteria	Complete
<p>Understand the needs of pupils and ensure information is available in relevant formats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large print</li> <li>• Braille</li> <li>• Pictorial or symbolic representations</li> </ul>	SENCO	Ad Hoc	Pupils have access to curriculum information and all other school information in a format that meets their needs	Yes
Ensure signage is suitable for non-readers, is clear and well situated	Headteacher	Ad Hoc	Pupils are able to navigate the school regardless of any disability	Yes
The school makes itself aware of the services available through the LA for converting written information into alternative formats	Headteacher	Ad Hoc	Pupils have access to curriculum information and all other school information in a format that meets their needs. Cheshire East provides alternative formats on request.	Yes
The school aims to use clear designs, alternative formats (like audio for video), proper coding, and features like headings and consistent layouts for users with visual, motor, cognitive, or hearing impairments.	Headteacher	Ad Hoc	Pupils have access to school information in a format that meets their needs.	Yes