



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

*Through our loving God we follow
in the footsteps of St. Joseph
who helps us to be gentle,
caring and hardworking.
As we learn together, we love
value and welcome
everyone.*

Accessibility Plan 2017-2020

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.

School Accessibility Plan 2017-20

This Accessibility Policy and Plan are drawn up in compliance 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.

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1985 (DDA):

"A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities."

St Joseph's Planning Objectives

1. We are committed to providing an 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.
- 1.1. St Joseph's plans, over time, to ensure the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school.
- 1.2. An Accessibility Plan will be drawn up to cover a three year period. The plan will be updated annually.
- 1.3. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - Improve access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers reasonable adjustments to the physical environment of the school and physical aids to access education.
 - Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding and making reasonable adjustments to 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 the DDA). 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 aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.

- Improve and make reasonable adjustments to the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities. Examples might include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events. The information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable time frame.

School Aims

2. In drawing up this Accessibility Plan the school set the following priorities:

- To provide safe access throughout the school for all school users
- To ensure that the learning and teaching environment and the resources used are suitable for all staff and pupils, tailoring the requirements to suit individual needs.
- To provide training to all staff regarding the needs of disabled people and how to provide assistance to enable them to enjoy the school experience as fully as possible.

2.1 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is committed to equal opportunities and inclusion. This Accessibility Plan is not a standalone document but should be considered alongside the following school policy documents:

- Disability Equality Scheme
- Special Educational Needs
- Equality Objectives
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School's Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Local Offer
- Safeguarding policy and arrangements
- Health & Safety policy
- Staff related policies, e.g. risk assessments, Return to Work

This plan itself will also be used to advise and inform other school planning documents and policies.

Review and Implementation

5. It will be the responsibility of the whole school community to implement this scheme in a manner which promotes the inclusive ethos of our school.

- 5.1. The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the School, which is undertaken regularly. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the life of this first Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each first three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new Plan for the following period.
- 5.2. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published on the School Website (statutory).
- 5.3. The Plan will be monitored through the Curriculum and the Premises Committees of the Governors.
- 5.4. We acknowledge that there is a need for on-going awareness raising and training for staff and Governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.