



ACCESSIBILITY PLAN 2021 – 2024 St Mary's Catholic Primary School

1. This Accessibility Policy & Action Plan has been drawn up in consultation with the Multi Academy Trust, Local Authority, stakeholders and governors of the school and will advise other school planning documents. The Accessibility Action Plan will be reviewed annually and provide a projected plan for the three years period ahead of the review date.
2. The Accessibility Policy is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives and will be published on the school website.
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 attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.
4. St Mary's Catholic Primary School's Accessibility Action 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 Action Plan will contain relevant actions to:
 - 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;
 - 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 time frame;
 - 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 time frame.
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 Action Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:
 - Curriculum Policy
 - Equality Objectives and Policy
 - Staff Development
 - Health & Safety (including off-site safety)
 - Inclusion
 - Special Educational Needs
 - Behaviour Management Policy
 - School Improvement Plan
 - Asset Management Plan
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. 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.
9. The Academy's complaints procedure covers the Accessibility Plan.
10. Information about our Accessibility Plan will be published on the school website.
11. The school will work in partnership with Plymouth CAST in developing and implementing this plan.
12. The Plan will be monitored by Ofsted under *Inspecting equalities* as part of their inspection cycle. The Chairs of Governors appreciate that the school could be judged inadequate by Ofsted if is unable to evidence promotion of disability equality.

Approved _____

DATE _____

Review date _____



St Mary's Catholic Primary School Accessibility Plan 2021 – 2024

Improving the Physical Access at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost £
Improve security boundaries	Improve security and safety around boundaries – raise height of boundary fence	January 2022	By the Trust
Paving at front of school	Fuchsia bush needs to be cut back so as not to obstruct path.	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	
Internal lighting	All internal lights to be assessed and replaced as necessary	January 2022 reviewed ongoing	By the Trust
Monitor the need for appropriate signage, contrasting colours of door furniture to aid visibility	Locate colour and tactile signs of door / furniture as necessary	Ongoing – monitor School refurb Summer 2021 External strips / step edges to be marked for improved visibility.	
Fire doors	Fire doors to be assessed and replaced as necessary	December 2022	By the Trust
Visibility panels to doors where required	Access depending upon classroom use	December 2022	By the Trust
Improve classroom furniture layouts to increase access	Staff to be aware of mobility and H&S issues by bi-annual checks	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	
Remove trip hazards	Identify appropriate storage for equipment and ensure that items are not left indiscriminately	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	
Observe fire exit routes	Check viability after fire practices	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	



St Mary's Catholic Primary School Accessibility Plan 2019 - 2023

Improving the Curriculum Access at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Target	Strategy	Outcome	Timeframe	Achievement
To develop a CPD programme to ensure staff are knowledgeable in terms of the needs of pupils with additional needs and strategies to support them.	Staff training requirements identified (Performance Management) School Nurse, Family Partnership Zone, SENSS, Speech & Language Training as required Individual plans	All teachers are able to more fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs with regards to accessing the curriculum Staff programme of SEND CPD linked to School Improvement Plan.	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	Increased access to the appropriate Curriculum for all pupils.
All out-of-school activities are planned to ensure the participation of the whole range of pupils	Review all out-of-school provision to ensure compliance with legislation	All out-of-school activities will be conducted in an inclusive environment with providers that comply with all current and future legislative requirements Afterschool clubs available.	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	Increase in access to all school activities such as trips out, residential visits, extended schools activities and sporting events for all pupils
To ensure classrooms are optimally organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Review and implement a preferred layout of furniture and equipment to support the learning process in individual class bases	Lessons start on time without the need to make adjustments to accommodate the needs of individual pupils School routines reviewed and improved	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	
To deploy Teaching Assistants effectively to support pupils' participation	Review needs of pupils within each class and staff accordingly Ensure staff skills are matched to pupil needs	Pupils needs are appropriately met through effective deployment of skilled support staff TA deployment based on SENCO led allocation.	Ongoing 2021 – 2024	All pupils are supported to achieve their full potential



St Mary's Catholic Primary School Accessibility Plan

Improving the Delivery of Written Information at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

TARGET	STRATEGY	OUTCOME	TIMEFRAME	ACHIEVEMENT
Availability of written material in formats to meet needs of both pupils and parents	The school will make itself aware of the services available for converting written information into alternative formats.	The school will be able to provide written information in different formats when required for individual purposes such a symbols, communicate in print, large print or through augmentative communication technology, contrasting colours	2021 – 2024	Access of all information is available
Make available school brochures, school newsletters and other information for parents in alternative formats as required	Review all current school publications and promote the availability in different formats for those that require it	All school information available for all through hard copy and website	2021 – 2024	Delivery of school information to parents and the local community improved
Review documentation with a view of ensuring accessibility for pupils with visual impairment as required	Get advice from HVSS on alternative formats and use of IT software to produce customized materials as required	All school information available for all	2021 – 2024	Delivery of school information to pupils & parents with visual difficulties improved.