



Accessibility Policy and Plan

Review cycle: Every 3 Years

Last Review Date: July 2018

Next Review Date: July 2021

Staff responsible: Bursar, SENCO, Headmaster

Governor responsible: Mrs K Fenwick

THIS POLICY IS APPLICABLE TO ALL PUPILS, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE EYFS



ACCESSIBILITY FOR DISABLED PUPILS

Introduction

This policy is drawn up in accordance with Schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010.

Definition of Disability

Disability is defined by the Equality Act 2010:

"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."

Key Objective

To reduce and, where possible and reasonable, eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in St John's School community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

Principles

Compliance with the Equality Act 2010 is consistent with St John's aims, the equal opportunities policy and the Special Educational Needs Policy.

St John's recognises its duty under the Equality Act 2010 :

- *not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services*
- *not to treat disabled pupils less favourably*
- *to take reasonable steps to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage*
- *to publish an Accessibility Plan for disabled pupils in compliance with Schedule 10.*

St John's recognises and values parents' knowledge of their child's disability and its effect on his ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents' and child's right to confidentiality. St John's provides all of its pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2000 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:

- *setting suitable learning challenges*
- *responding to pupils' diverse learning needs*
- *overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils where reasonable.*



Activity

a) Education & related activities

St John's will continue to seek and follow the advice of specialist services, such as specialist teachers for the visually impaired, hearing impaired and physically impaired and SEN inspectors/advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.

b) Physical environment

St John's will continue to take account of the needs of pupils and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishment of the site and premises. This will include: assessing acoustics, lighting, colour schemes and the accessibility of facilities and fittings especially handrails and ramps.

c) Provision of information

St John's will continue to improve the way in which information is delivered to pupils with disabilities. For example, information that is normally provided in writing (such as handouts, textbooks) is made more accessible for visually impaired pupils by providing it in larger print and/or through assistive technology, by selecting appropriate hardware and software.

d) Increased access to the curriculum

St John's will continue to make reasonable adjustments that enable pupils with disabilities to have better access to the curriculum, such as changes to teaching and learning arrangements, classroom organisation, timetabling and attending educational visits.

e) Assistive technology

St John's will continue to develop its use of technology suited to pupils needs to enable them to access the curriculum more easily. For example, laptops, ipads, interactive whiteboards, text to speech software.

Accessibility Plan

See attached Accessibility Plan (Appendix 1)

Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school policies, e.g.

- *School Development Plan*
- *Special Educational Needs Policy*
- *Equal Opportunities Policy*
- *Teaching and learning Policy*

**APPENDIX 1:****ACCESSIBILITY PLAN: SEPT 2018 – SEPT 2021**

Provision Information	Time scales and actions
Short term (18-19)	<p>Sept 2018: Familiarisation with SEN information on iSAMs for all relevant staff.</p> <p>Sept 2018: Review the potential impact of tablet computers to aid provision.</p> <p>Jan 2019: Investigate the cost and practicality of technology as appropriate to the pupils in our school (attend Bett Jan 2019)</p> <p>Feb 2019: Continue to develop staff knowledge and skills (in staff SEN folders).</p>
Medium term (19-20)	<p>Sept 2019: SEND Training for all staff and LDD guidance.</p> <p>April 2020: Monitoring and assessing provision information and communication systems taking account of external SEN changes and school need.</p>
Long term (20-21)	<p>Sept 2020: Review of provision information</p>

Access to curriculum	Time scales and actions
Short term (18-19)	<p>Sept 2018: Ensure tablet computers available for SEND pupils; review/ adjust white-board position in class room WH1 and WH4.</p> <p>Feb 2019: Increase access for children with speech and language difficulties developing staff knowledge and skills</p>



	March 2019: Upgrade computers in Music department
Medium term (19-20)	Jan 2020: Use of assistive technology for pupils with SEN e.g. kindle tablets.
Long term (20-21)	Sept 2020: Audit of provision information according to SEND.

Physical Environment	Time scales and actions
Short term (18-19)	<p>Sept 2018: (i) Disabled parking places marked and located in the School car park. Ramp and handrail are in place to ensure access to the back of the kitchen. (ii) Review/improve signage and visual symbols around the school for disabled access routes to fire points.</p> <p>Weekly: Ensuring clear walkways both inside and outside allowing access to all areas.</p>
Medium term (19-20)	Sept 2018: Develop use of a sensory garden section of the Donkey Field nature area.
Long term (20-21)	<p>Sept 2020: All new building projects to be audited for LDD.</p> <p>Sept 2020: Proposed Sports Hall to provide opportunities for disabled sport.</p>