

St John Vianney Catholic Primary School

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN



Seeking Growth Together

St. John Vianney Catholic Primary school

Accessibility Plan

Introduction:

The SEN and Disability Act 2001, extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, (DDA) and was further enhanced and modified by the Equality Act 2010 to cover education. These acts were introduced with the aim of ensuring that all disabled people have an opportunity to participate equally in society. Under the Equality Act, Disability is a specific, 'Protected Characteristic'.

Responsibilities for the school under these acts with respect to disability are largely as follows:

- *Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability*
- *To make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage*
- *To plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils*

As well as our pupils and staff we must make sure that other people who visit or use St. John Vianney can use our facilities with ease. We want to provide an accessible and comfortable place for everyone who uses it.

This Plan sets out the Schools proposals to increase access to education for disabled pupils in three areas and is valid for the period April 2012-April 2014:

- *To increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum*
- *To improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services*
- *To improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.*

Current Arrangements:

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St. John Vianney Accessibility Policy

- St. John Vianney Accessibility Policy encourages people to discuss with us disability considerations with respect to their child or themselves, such that individual plans can be put in place. This will ensure that they can be given the most effective opportunity and access. However, it remains our policy to have due regard to accessibility for all with respect to any decisions made affecting accessibility and the policies therein.

Physical Access to Buildings and Classrooms.

- The physical access to St. John Vianney has improved considerably over the past few years.
- The current premises design and layout has full regard for accessibility and includes ramped entrances/exits, wide wheel chair friendly classrooms, passages and doorways. The building also incorporates an accessible toilet and certain classrooms now have large patio style doors giving full access to the outdoor areas that are at a similar level.
- The playground is also fully accessible with no restrictions as these are level with the main school building.

Evacuation Procedures

- St. John Vianney school's fire and evacuation policy lays down basic procedures for the safe efficient evacuation of the school buildings. These procedures could be adapted to meet the specific needs of an individual. Such procedures will be discussed with the pupil and parents and could be set out in the individual plan for the pupil.
- The current evacuation assembly point is the school's front playground.

Curriculum Access – Teaching and Learning

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- At St. John Vianney our aim is that pupils with disabilities should as far as possible have access to a full and broad curriculum, similar to that followed by their peers.
- At St. John Vianney we will do everything in our power to support pupils with a range of disabilities including, sight and hearing, physical disability as well as learning difficulties of varying degrees. Decisions are to be taken on an individual basis with due regard for a child's needs.
- Our teachers understand that pupils have different ways of learning and adapt their lessons to the different groups within their class.

Informal curriculum

- Children at St. John Vianney have always been able to participate fully in the wide range of activities offered beyond the classroom consistent with the limitations imposed by any disability.
- At St. John Vianney arrangements for play, recreation and other aspects of a child's social development are incorporated into the child's individual education plan. The suitability of any event and the need for additional support is discussed fully with the parents in advance.

Access to Written Information

We currently have a varied methodology for communicating with parents, carers and pupils, these include:

- *Repeating the information whilst speaking at parent attended assemblies and parents evenings*
- *Notes we send home with pupils about specific events and projects*
- *Newsletters each term*
- *Information from our Web site*
- *Phoning parents when we know that they cannot read the information we send home.*

Action Plans:

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Item/Issue	Action to be taken	Date planned for completion
To ensure that the outside play areas in years N/R/1 are accessible.	To involve staff from Woodlands to give advice	2015