

St. Columba's Catholic Primary School

Accessibility Plan

May 2017

At St. Columba's, we seek to provide a safe, happy and caring environment, where we all '*Holding hands with Jesus as we love, learn and grow together*'

(St. Columba's Mission Statement)

This document should be read in conjunction with our school's SEND policy which details how St Columba's Catholic Primary School will ensure that our school is socially and academically inclusive, that all pupils have access to the national curriculum, in order to meet their full potential.

At St. Columba's we strive to ensure that the culture and Catholic ethos of the school are such that, whatever the abilities and needs of members of our school community, everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect. Pupils should be provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and value diversity.

Aims

St. Columba's Catholic Primary School aims to include all pupils, including those with disabilities, in the full life of the school.

Our strategies to do this will include:

- having high expectations of all pupils
- finding ways where reasonably possible in which all pupils can take part in the full curriculum
- planning out-of-school activities including all residential, school visits and excursions so that pupils with disabilities can participate where reasonably possible
- setting admissions policy and criteria which does not discriminate against pupils with disabilities or treat them unfairly
- devising teaching strategies which will remove barriers to learning and participation for pupils with disabilities
- ensuring the physical environment of the school caters for the needs of pupils with disabilities where reasonably possible
- including disability awareness as part of our PHSE Program of study

Physical Environment

St. Columba's Catholic Primary School is well designed to meet the needs of disabled pupils, staff or members of our community:

- The building is a single storey building.
- The entrance is accessible for wheelchair access with a ramp leading to the main reception area.
- There is ramp access to the outside areas/playground.
- There is one adult disabled toilet in the main school and one in the Family Room.

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

The Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy takes into account The Children and Families Act 2014, the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice 2015, The Equality Act 2010 and the aims of our school.

The Equality Act 2010 defines a disability as '...a physical or mental impairment which has a long term and substantial adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.' This definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer. The Equality Act 2010 requires that schools: must not directly or indirectly discriminate against, harass or victimise disabled children and young people must make reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled children and young people are not at a substantial disadvantage compared to their peers.

Advice will always be sought from Knowsley Local Authority as how best to support the needs of any specific child. All reasonable adjustments will be made to meet these needs. Educational Health Care Plans will be signed by the SENDCO and parent. All Care Plans will be regularly reviewed. Monitoring at St. Columba's Catholic Primary School recognises that it is essential to ensure that pupils with disabilities are not being disadvantaged, and that monitoring leads to action planning. We will monitor: Attainment, progress, attendance and punctuality. We work in partnership with parents in various ways including: consultation meetings, school masses, assemblies and special events. Additional meetings are arranged if needed.

Provision of Information

Linked Policies/Documents to include: School Prospectus, SEND Policy,

Personal Social Health Education Policy

Policy agreed by Governors on	May 2017	
Signature of Chair of Governors	<i>J. Simms</i>	J. Simms
Signature of Head Teacher	<i>M. Evans</i>	M.Evans
Date to be reviewed	May 2017	