

St Wilfrid's RC Primary, Bishop Auckland

Accessibility Plan 2016-2019

Introduction

This plan has been written to ensure that St Wilfrid's RC Primary School meets the necessary requirements for accessibility for disabled pupils as stated in the Equality Act 2010 and the SEND Code of Practice 2014.

St Wilfrid's RC Primary School recognises its duty:

- 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.

St Wilfrid's RC Primary School aims to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum.
- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided.
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils.

Definition of Disability under the Equality Act 2010 states that a person has a disability if:

"They have a physical or mental impairment that has an adverse, substantial and long term effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities".

St Wilfrid's provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles. We endorse the key principles which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:

- Setting suitable learning challenges
- Responding to pupils' diverse needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual groups of pupils.

The three areas to be considered in the action plan are:

a) Improving education and related activities: St Wilfrid's will seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisors and SEND advisors, and of appropriate health professionals from the NHS Trust.

St Wilfrid's RC Primary, Bishop Auckland

Accessibility Plan 2016-2019

b) Improving the physical environment: St Wilfrid's will take account of the needs of pupils and visitors with physical difficulties and sensory impairments when planning and undertaking future improvements and refurbishments of the site and premises. This may include improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes and more accessible facilities and fittings.

c) Improving the provision of information: St Wilfrid's will make itself aware of the local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information or alternative formats when required or requested eg: modified larger print for children with visual impairments.

Contextual information

St Wilfrid's is a highly inclusive school on one site:

One building with two main accessible entrances

- Main Entrance (at front of school, main office)
- First Steps - Early Year Unit; Nursery and Reception (side of building ramped access)

The building is fully accessible to the whole school community. There is easy access with wide doors for ease of entry.

Information about the school's disabled population

The school's population can have children who have some kind of impairment, be it physical or mental. Some children have severe, moderate and specific learning difficulties.

Home visits take place for children beginning Nursery and Reception (if children did not attend our Nursery) if any additional needs have been identified. The LA and health advisers are contacted for support and guidance.

Staff are trained in managing and supporting pupils with Diabetes

Staff are trained in the use of epipens where necessary and all members of staff hold current first aid qualifications. In addition, we have seven members of staff who are designated first aid officers.

Transition meetings are held between class teachers each year and with parents, where applicable. A thorough system of reviews takes place for children on the SEND register and those who have disabilities. Where children have significant health problems, all appropriate adults are informed.

Medical Care Plans are in place across school and staff regularly update and communicate with parents and healthcare professionals when needed.

St Wilfrid's RC Primary, Bishop Auckland

Accessibility Plan 2016-2019

How appropriate is the current provision?

Staff are highly aware by effective communication of the issues faced by disabled pupils and act to resolve them, e.g. adapting the timetable, lesson content and presentation of resources to ensure better accessibility, planning visits and clubs which are inclusive.

Regular CPD addresses the inclusion agenda- to keep staff aware of current updates with areas of SEND.

Provision in an Emergency

Children with specific physical needs will have their own personal evacuation/fire exit plans. Named adults are responsible for their evacuation in an emergency. We have regular evacuation practices for all children.

Recent projects to improve the physical environment have included:

- New LED Lighting throughout school
- Finger guards added and replaced around the school to safeguard all pupils from any finger traps between doors (February 2016).

Targets for 2016-2019

- Hall sliding doors to be replaced with smooth floor fittings rather than floor runners at present.
 - Outdoor Learning Environment - accessibility for all pupils

Plan written on: January 2017

Miss J Sands (Head teacher) & Mrs M Ellison (SEND Governor)

Plan to be reviewed on: April 2018