



Access Policy

This Accessibility Plan has been drawn up in light of the most recent Health & Safety report, Fire & Safety report, recommendations from the architects, Wilby & Burnett, LA and & SDBE guidelines and any statutory directives.

We are committed to providing a fully accessible environment which 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 challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

St Faith's CE School is a Rights Respecting School. All pupils, staff and visitors have the right to be educated, be healthy, safe, listened to and treated fairly. We are committed to equal rights, mutual respect and shared responsibility.

The plans will, over time, increase the accessibility of provision for all pupils, staff and visitors to the school. The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant actions to:

- Continue 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 prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupil. 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 aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum.
- 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.

The school will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments to aid a prospective or existing pupil/staff member with a disability. Such adjustments may include [but not limited to]: specialist seating, any relevant classroom resources or equipment, etc. In defining reasonable, the school shall take into account: the cost and feasibility of making specific alterations to the school premises, staffing requirements, health & safety implications, financial resources and the likelihood of any external funding being available and the interests of pupils, staff and visitors.

All personal information provided to the school regarding a pupil or staff member's disabilities shall be treated in the strictest confidence and only used in accordance the Data Protection Act (1998).

Action Plans, relating to these key aspects of accessibility are attached to this plan. These plans will be reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. New Plans will be drawn up every three years.

We acknowledge that there is a need for ongoing awareness raising and training for staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the need to inform attitudes on this matter.

The Accessibility Plan should be read in conjunction with the following policies, strategies and documents:

- Equal Opportunities and Diversity Statement
- Staff CPD
- Health & Safety (including off-site safety)
- Special Needs
- Behaviour Management
- School Improvement Plan
- School Brochure and Mission Statement
- Teaching and Learning

The action plan for physical accessibility relates to recommendations from the school's contracted architects, Wilby & Burnett. Where it may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the current review some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. The audit will need to be revisited prior to the end of each three-year plan period in order to inform the development of the new plan for the following period.

As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added to that on Equality and Diversity. The terms of reference for all governors' committees will contain an item on "having regard to matters relating to Access".

The School's complaints procedure covers the Access Policy.

The Policy and Action Plan will be monitored through the Finance & Premises Committee of the Governors.

The school will work in partnership with the local education authority and Southwark Diocesan Board for Education.

The Action Plan will be monitored by Ofsted as part of their inspection cycle.

Updated January 2015