



Accessibility Policy



Policy review dates:

| Next Review Date | Changes made | By whom | Date Shared |
|----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| September 2026 (3-year cycle) | No changes – update agreed by LCG in Autumn term meeting. | Charlotte Chapman/ Stephen Anderson Local Governing Committee | September 2023 |



Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School

Accessibility Plan

Introduction

This plan has been written to ensure that Ss Peter and Paul Catholic 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 (updated in 2020).

Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic 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.

Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic 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".

Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School 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:** Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School will seek and follow the advice of Northumberland County services, such as specialist teacher advisors and SEN advisors, and of appropriate health professionals from the NHS Trust.
- b) Improving the physical environment:** Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School 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, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes and more accessible facilities and fittings.



- c) **Improving the provision of information:** Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School will make itself aware of the local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information alternative formats when required or requested.

Contextual information

Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Primary School, is a highly inclusive school, it is housed in one building on two levels. There are access points on both levels.

The School Office is located on the main level along with all of the classrooms. On the upper level- two steps) is the hall, a spare classroom used as the School Club, the kitchen and the school hall.

There are plans to create an extension to the school building which includes a ramp.

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 moderate and specific learning difficulties.

As part of the robust transition arrangements between Nursery and Reception, any additional needs are identified. Northumberland County Council and health advisers are contacted for support and guidance.

Staff are trained in the use of EpiPens where necessary and several members of staff hold current first aid qualifications.

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

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.

Provision in an Emergency

Children with specific physical needs have their own personal evacuation 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:

- Redecoration and de-cluttering of class rooms and improving the learning environment.
- Complete the planned building works which include a ramp to allow access.

Targets for 2023-24:

- Continue to improve learning environment and 'Forest School' area.



Related policies:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) policy
- Equality and Diversity policy.

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| Date: | September 2023 |
| Presented to Governors & Approved: | 28 th September 2023 |
| Next scheduled review: | September 2026 (3 year cycle) |
| Officer responsible: | Charlotte Chapman/ Stephen Anderson. |