



AD LUCEM

School name: St Bartholomew's School

3-year period covered by the plan: 2018 – 2021

Lead member of staff: M A Sims, Deputy Headteacher.

At St Bartholomew's we have high expectations for all our students. Students are provided with high quality learning opportunities so that each child attains and achieves to the best of their ability. Everyone in our school community is important and included. We promote an ethos of care and trust where every member of our school community feels that they truly belong and are valued. We work hard to ensure there are no invisible children here, recognising everyone's uniqueness and success. We recognise learning in all its forms and are committed to nurturing lifelong learners. We are a safe school, committed to improving children's confidence and self-esteem.

This Accessibility Plan is drawn up in compliance with current legislation and requirements as specified in Schedule 10, relating to Disability, of the Equality Act 2010, which replaced all existing equality legislation, including the Disability Discrimination Act. The effect of the law is the same as in the past, meaning that "schools cannot unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion or belief and sexual orientation".

According to the Equality Act 2010 a person has a disability if:

- (a) He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
- (b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The Accessibility Plan is structured to complement and support the school's Equality Objectives.

The Governing Body has three key duties towards disabled pupils, under Part 4 of the DDA:

1. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability;

2. to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
3. to plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the school to increase access to education for disabled pupils in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- a) increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum;
- b) further improving the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services;
- c) further improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information, in a form which they can access.

As is a requirement, the school's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented, reviewed and revised as necessary. As a school we constantly seek to address the priorities associated with the Access Plan.

The School's Context:

We are an Academy for boys and girls age range 11yrs to 16+. The school is a single site comprising one building on a large site, mostly of two or three storey construction.

We have the benefit of being a school of modern design, completed and opened in 2010. The architects design incorporated many features leading to a be-spoke design, meeting the needs of our school and community. Measures to support disability and to overcome barriers, including sensory needs have been included. This is demonstrated in our structural design and additional features which the school has added in order to support the various needs of students.

Vision and values:

We are an inclusive school, meeting the diverse needs of each student, staff and local community.

Participation in the school curriculum is open to all. Where extra curricular trips / activities pose a risk to some, staff work hard to minimise risk and to remove barriers to those who are disabled. This may be through the support of additional staffing, and or the use of technological aids to overcome barriers. The diverse nature of the curriculum means that students throughout the school are able to access courses and programmes of study which meet their needs and overcome barriers. This is kept under constant review.

The school actively welcomes the support of a range of agencies in meeting the needs of all our students and families. The school will frequently host meetings with other agencies and is highly regarded in their multi-agency work.

Objectives

- St Bartholomew's is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that 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 taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the school.

- Further increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a physical disability and/or sensory impairments, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life as the able-bodied pupils. This covers teaching and learning and the wider curriculum of the school such as participation in extra-curricular activities. It also covers the provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe.
- Improve and maintain excellent 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 within a reasonable timeframe.
- Improve the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities; examples include hand-outs, timetables, textbooks and information about the school and school events; the information should be made available in various preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe.

Whole school training will recognise the need to continue raising awareness for staff on equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010.

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

- Behaviour Management Policy
- Curriculum Policies
- Emergency Action Plan
- Health & Safety Policy
- School Development Plan
- The Equal Opportunities Policy
- Equality Objectives

The Accessibility Plan will be monitored through the Facilities Office the School Leadership Team and Governing Body.

St Bartholomew's School

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

An Access Audit was carried out by the Facilities Manager and the following recommendations made:

Access Issue	Item	Activity	Timescale	Cost
A/B Slopes	Slope to the front of school	Apply further friction strips	March 2018	£300
A/B Corridor	Keep corridors clear from obstructions.	Immediate	High	None
A/B Disabled Parking	Spaces provided, but not respected by all visitors	Reminders to whole community Review signage	On-going	None
A Differentiation in teaching & learning	HoD's, HoF's & LT to monitor quality of differentiation and provision for all students.	On-going through observations, learning walks and focused observations of SEN students	On-going	None
A Classrooms are organised to promote the participation and independence of all pupils	Use of varied height tables is used appropriately	Ensure that staff use equipment effectively and that timetabling facilitates this.	On-going	None
C Availability of written material in alternative formats when specifically requested	Alternative methods of communication / languages / formats will be available as required	Ensure that staff are aware of the need to access and provide these alternative forms of communication.	On-going	None
A/B/C New buildings planned for the Sixth Form take account of all access measures.	Standards for all sensory needs / disabled access remain at the same high standards as the rest of the school buildings.	Plan for excellence from the start of the design process. Consult with experts in each field.	On-going to completion of build project in September 2018	As per building project

