



Vision for life and learning at Oratory Primary

Our aim is to nurture in our children a strong sense of self belief, to be loving and considerate with others, and keen to make the most of the years which stretch before them to do good.

Our motto is not an idle one, it is the essence of our school:

We work together, we play together, we laugh together, we pray together:

In Faith: We provide an environment where children are enabled to build on and deepen their relationship with God. Opportunities for prayer, reflection, and liturgy allow pupils to live and grow together as Catholics.

In Community: We appreciate the expert knowledge that parents have of their children's strengths and needs and invite families to share that knowledge with us. A strong partnership between home and school is vital in ensuring children achieve their personal best.

In Learning: We recognise that all children have particular abilities and aptitudes to be nurtured and celebrated. We encourage our pupils to become independent thinkers, and reflective learners, secure in the knowledge that with focus, endeavour and support, they can achieve their academic and creative potential.

In Life: We give our pupils a safe environment in which to build skills for their futures. We encourage them to adopt healthy lifestyles, respect the environment and be responsible citizens.

In Love: We teach our pupils to show kindness, respect and forgiveness. We celebrate our place in God's family by supporting one another and facing challenges together.

Accessibility Policy and Plan Spring 2023-Spring 2024

Introduction

At Oratory Primary School we believe that every child should have access to a broad, balanced, relevant and differentiated curriculum. This should take account of their individual strengths and needs and should allow each child to fulfil their potential.

Aims and objectives of this policy

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

Our Accessibility Plan (see the end of this document) has been drawn based upon the needs of the school and the school site and will advise other school documents. The Accessibility Plan will be reviewed annually in respect of progress and outcomes.

The Accessibility Plan that follows this accessibility policy is structured to complement and support the school's equality objectives and will be published on the school's website. We understand that the Local Authority will monitor the school's activity under the Equality Act 2010 and will advise upon compliance with that duty.

We are committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access and values 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.

Our Accessibility Plan shows how access can be improved for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school in a given time frame and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable.

The Accessibility Plan will contain relevant and timely actions to:

- Increase access to the curriculum pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure pupils with a disability are as, equally, prepared for life as are the able-bodied pupils; 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 provision of specialist or auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist these pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe
- 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 within a reasonable timeframe
- 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 preferred formats within a reasonable timeframe

The Accessibility Plan relates to the key aspects of physical environment, curriculum and written information.

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

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

- Curriculum policies
- Equality Objectives
- Health and Safety policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) policy
- Behaviour policy
- School Improvement Plan

The Accessibility Plan for physical accessibility relates to the Access Audit of the school, which was originally undertaken by the Local Authority and subsequently updated and remains the responsibility of the governing body. It may not be feasible to undertake all of the works during the life of the Accessibility Plan and therefore some items will roll forward into subsequent plans. An accessibility audit will be completed by the school to the end of each period covering this plan in order to inform the development of a new Accessibility Plan for the on-going period.

Oratory Primary School Accessibility Plan 2023-2024 Improving the physical access

Target	Strategies	Timescale	What will success look like?
To be aware of the access needs of disabled children, staff, governors and parents/ carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the school staff & governors are aware of access issues ('access' meaning 'access to' and 'access from') • Create access plans for individual disabled children as part of the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) process • Ensure staff and governors can access areas of school used meetings • Annual reminder to parents and carers through newsletter to let us know if they have problems with access to areas of school • Ensure a PEEP (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan) is prepared and reviewed if someone at school (pupil or adult) becomes physically impaired 	As required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND objectives are in place for disabled pupils, and all staff are aware of pupils' needs. • All staff & governors are confident that their needs are met. • Continuously monitored to ensure any new needs arising are met. • Parents have full access to all areas of school • PEEPs are prepared and reviewed as individual needs change
Maintain safety for visually impaired people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check if any children have a visual impairment resulting in yellow paint being needed on step edges and other edges • Check exterior lighting is working on a regular basis. Put black/ yellow hazard tape on poles at end of play equipment to help visually impaired children, if appropriate 	Annually, and as new children join the school throughout the year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visually impaired people feel safe in school grounds. Yellow edges and flashing beacons to be monitored as needed throughout the school year.
Ensure there are enough fire exits around school that are suitable for people with a disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure staff are aware of need to keep fire exits clear 	Daily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All disabled personnel and pupils have safe exits from school.

Oratory Primary School Accessibility Plan 2023-2024 Improving the curriculum access

Target	Strategies	Timescale	What will success look like?
All school visits and trips need to be accessible to all pupils	Ensure venues and means of transport are vetted for suitability Develop guidance on making trips accessible	On-going	All pupils are able to access all school trips and take part in a range of activities
Review PE curriculum to ensure PE is accessible to all pupils	Review PE curriculum to include disability sports	Annually	All pupils have access to PE and are able to excel, for example via support from an adult
Ensure disabled children can take part equally in lunchtime and after school activities	Discuss with staff who run out of school clubs, and people running other clubs after school. Support would need to be available – especially after school. Ensure there is a way of getting children with mobility issues/ wheelchairs to the hall, where clubs usually take place – including leaving school via the playground gates instead of the main front door which has steps in front	As required	Disabled children feel able to participate equally in out of school activities.
Ensure support staff have specific training on disability issues	Identify training needs at regular meetings	On-going	Raised confidence of support staff