

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

**Mater Christi Multi Academy Trust**  
Loving, Living, Learning Together



At St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, we believe that every child is a unique creation of God.

We promote respect and care for one another following in the footsteps of the family Jesus wants us to be.

Caring for one another is at the centre of our school life.

We promise to provide educational opportunities and experiences to enrich the learning and well-being of the children by following the teaching of Jesus Christ.

Our school values its partnership with the Parish community and MAT, together enabling our children to become rounded, confident individuals, with an understanding of Gospel values as preparation for the world of work and life.

## Accessibility Policy

Written by:	Date reviewed:	Approved by:	Date for next review:
SLT	September 2023	Fr. John-Paul Evans	September 2024

We are committed to providing a fully accessible and welcoming 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 want to continue to develop a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion.

This Accessibility Action Plan contains the relevant actions to:-

Improve access to the physical environment of the school, adding specialist facilities as necessary. This covers improvements to the school site to ensure all pupils have access to the different areas within school without experiencing barriers caused by steps, doorways, stairs, toilet facilities and showers for example. Additionally, it covers the use of signs, lighting and acoustics to ensure the best environment for all children to learn. It also includes ensuring emergency and evacuation systems are set up to cater for all pupils.

Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, expanding the curriculum as necessary to ensure that all pupils are given equal opportunities. This covers teaching and learning as well as 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 pupils in accessing the curriculum. The curriculum should also be differentiated using a range of methods to enable all the children to access the curriculum appropriately whilst maintaining high expectations.

Improve communication and the delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities, e.g. hand-outs and information about the school and school events including day-to-day issues. The information will be made available in various preferred formats, as specifically requested. The information can also be shared verbally or using the appropriate technology as required.

The Action Plan for physical accessibility relates to an Access Audit survey of the School. It may not be feasible to undertake some of the works during the next three years of this Accessibility Plan and therefore some items may continue into subsequent plans. The school will work in partnership with the Multi-Academy Trust and will adopt in principle the "Lancashire Accessibility Strategy, Access to Learning".

Following a detailed survey of the site the following Action Plan was developed:

**Physical Environment** - To provide improved access to the school ground and buildings for all.

Target	Action	Responsibility	Time Scale
To improve the use of signs		Head teacher SENDCo Site supervisor.	
To ensure disabled toilet has appropriate equipment.	New disabled toilet on the ground floor to be checked daily by site supervisor.	Head teacher SENDCo Site supervisor.	On going
Ensure all areas including corridors, access ramps, first aid area and disabled toilet are checked on a regular basis to ensure they are free from obstruction.	Site supervisor to check weekly that all areas are free from obstructions.	Site supervisor	On going

**Curriculum Access** - To provide equality of access to the curriculum for all pupils in relation to needs

Target	Action	Responsibility	Time Scale
To ensure all classrooms are 'dyslexia friendly'.	All classrooms have adopted a neutral theme for display boards.	SENDCo	On going
Ensure all school trips and residential visits are accessible to all.	Speak to staff to ensure that when planning a trip they are aware of the needs of all of the children in their class.	SENDCo EVC	On going
To ensure that children feel included in all clubs and activities	Include question on the children's questionnaire about access to clubs and whether they feel they are included.	SENDCo	December 2023

**Communication** – To improve communication and access to information.

Target	Action	Responsibility	Time Scale
To improve the communication between school and parents for children with SEND.	SENDCo open mornings	SENDCo	On going
	SEND open mornings		
	SEND coffee mornings		
Improve the availability of written material in alternative formats when specifically requested eg. EAL	The school will make itself aware of the services available for converting written information into alternative formats.	SENDCo	On going