



# English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School

Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life

## Accessibility Plan 2021-2024

<b>Date of Approval:</b>	September 2021
<b>Next Review Date:</b>	September 2024
<b>Approved by:</b>	Maria Elliott (Headteacher)
<b>Changes made:</b>	None
<b>Date approved by LGC (Local Governing Committee):</b>	September 2021



## English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School Ethos Statement

Within the Mission Statement of the school, it makes it absolutely clear that the whole ethos of the school and all aspects of the school will reflect the practice and traditions of our Catholic faith. Such teachings direct us to believe that we are all "Children of God" and that we live by following the example of Jesus giving to us in the Gospels. We aspire to live out these Gospel Values but putting the Beatitudes into practice in all that we do.

Our school motto – *'Loving Jesus, loving learning, loving life'*; along with the Beatitudes underpin all that we do here at English Martyrs'.

The principles of striving for excellence in all that we attempt to do and taking the opportunities offered for reconciliation should be uppermost in our minds when dealing with issues particularly when this involves conflict or misunderstandings between members of the school family.

### Be-attitudes

At English Martyrs' Catholic School we follow what Jesus taught us in the Gospels., where the Be-attitudes underpin every element of our school.

**As a Catholic School we have the Catholic mission at our very core.**

Everyone in school is expected to actively follow and live out our mission statement:

***"Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life."***

We achieve our Mission Statement by following the Beatitudes as the foundation blocks of all we do. The Beatitudes give us the ATTITUDES that we want to BE.

We have Be-attitudes for Behaviour and Conduct (Our Core Values), Beatitudes for Learning and Beatitudes for Teaching.





## **Introduction**

This plan has been written to meet the requirements of school to carry out accessibility planning for disabled pupils as stated in the Equality Act 2010 and the SEND Code of Practice 2014.

### **English Martyrs' 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.

### **English Martyrs' 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.

This plan will be reviewed regularly and will be updated every three years. This plan complements our SEN Policy, Equal Opportunities, Administration of Medicines, Safeguarding and Child Protection policies.

### **Definition of Disability under the Equality Act 2010 states that a person has a disability if:**

- you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

English Martyrs' 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 learning needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.



### **The three areas to be considered in the action plan are:**

- a) Improving education and related activities.** English Martyrs' will seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN advisers, and of appropriate health professionals from the NHS Trusts.
- b) Improving the physical environment.** English Martyrs' 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.
- c) Improving the provision of information.** English Martyrs' will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the LEA, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.

### **Contextual Information**

English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School is a highly inclusive school. The large building, on extensive grounds, was formally two separate schools. An ongoing modernisation scheme, ensures that pupils have access to modern facilities. The EYFS is housed in the single storey section, which is fully accessible to the whole school community. There are two accessible toilets on the ground floor, which have alarm cords.

### **Information about the school's disabled population**

The school's population often has children who have some kind of impairment, be it physical or mental. Some children have moderate and specific learning difficulties. Home visits are undertaken for all children beginning Nursery and Reception and if any children have additional needs the Local Authority, Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust and health advisers are contacted for support and guidance. Many staff members 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, including VI. Medical forms are signed by the head teacher and discusses medication use with parents. Where children have significant health problems, all appropriate adults are informed and photos are displayed on the staff notice board and/or the kitchen wall to hi-light a food allergy.

### **How appropriate is the current provision?**

Staff are highly aware by effective communication of the issues faced by our 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, including a procedure where we blow the whistle three times when we wish to evacuate the school grounds.



**Recent projects to improve the physical environment have included:**

- *Canopies to ensure EYFS access external space during inclement weather*
- *Trim Trail installed in KS2 Yard*
- *Installation of gym equipment in KS2 Yard.*

**Targets for 2021 – 2024 and how we intend to achieve them.**

**Monitoring will be undertaken by the Local Governing Body, with advice from key professionals.**

<b>Target</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Success Criteria</b>
Develop outdoor spaces to provide further opportunities for play and learning.	Develop lunchtimes using OPAL framework.	By May 23	Achieve OPAL award.
To encourage children with learning disabilities or physical disabilities to be representatives on the school council and hold Y6 responsibilities	Actively encourage children with learning disabilities or physical disabilities to be representatives on the school council and hold responsibilities in school	Ongoing	Increasing the voice of vulnerable children as representatives
Staff training and staff CPD	The school will decide which members of staff would benefit from specific SEN training based on the needs of our SEN pupils, e.g. safer handling, ASD training.	Ongoing	Staff are able to more fully meet the requirements of disabled children's needs with regarding to accessing the curriculum.
Check on new pupils and their needs	Home visits for FS children, liaise with previous setting, put targets in place.	Ongoing	To ensure inclusion for all pupils.
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	Ongoing	All pupils are able to access all trips and take part in a range of activities.