



St Benedict's Catholic High School

Accessibility Policy

1. Mission: High Achieving – “Have life and Have it to the full”

1.1 The mission of St Benedict’s Catholic High School is to prepare young people to play an active part in society by providing them with the exceptional skills, qualifications and attitudes /gospel values that will benefit them and others, locally, nationally and internationally. St Benedict’s Catholic High School strives to ensure equal opportunities amongst all staff and pupils and is driven by a commitment to inclusive practice in all aspects of school life.

1.2 Values

- Learning
- Integrity
- Faith filled
- Excellence

2. Purpose of Policy

2.1 The purpose of this plan is to ensure all pupils with a disability have access to the school’s physical environment, are able to engage positively with the curriculum and are able to participate in all activities offered by St Benedict’s Catholic High School.

This is in accordance with the following statutory guidance:

- the Equality Act (2010)
- the Children and Families Act (2014)
- the SEND Code of Practice (2014) and
- the SEN and Disability Regulations (2014)

2.2 Reasonable and appropriate measures are also taken for pupils who require adaptations to their timetable due to short-term physical impairments.

3. Accessibility Strategy

3.1 St Benedict’s Catholic High School will make every effort to maximise the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school’s curriculum and continually seek to improve the physical environment in order for all pupils to take advantage of the education, facilities and services offered.

3.2 All pupils regardless of disability are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities. These include but are not limited to:

- Outdoor Education
- Sports
- School Drama
- Music
- Extra-curricular Clubs and Activities

- School Trips

3.3 Accessibility is addressed under the headings below.

- Admissions
- Access to the physical environment (Buildings and Classrooms)
- Access to the Curriculum
- Information for Students and Parents

4.

Admissions

4.1 The Governors of St Benedict's High School support the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code 2014. The Governors are therefore committed to the principle of all local children having equal rights of access if this can reasonably be provided. Please refer to the St Benedict's Catholic High School Admissions policy.

5. Access to the Physical Environment (Buildings and Classrooms)

5.1 Summary of physical environment: St Benedict's Catholic High School has developed in stages since the original building was opened in 1962 The site consists of the following key areas:

- Building A: Main school Built incl. Science block 1 built in 1962
- Building B: An extension 1A and 6A built in 2002
- Building C: Humanities Block built in 1996
- Building D: PE and Design technology block built in 1996
- Building E Digital studio built in 2007
- Building E Front Admin block built in 2007
- Building G: VI form built in 2010
- Scholastica is a temporary building on site from 1995 (Steep ramp but still accessible)

The whole school have a disabled access via lifts to access second floor. There is no room which cannot be accessed using wheelchair.

6. Access to the Curriculum

6.1 Additional information can be found in St Benedict's Catholic High School's Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy.

6.2 St Benedict's High School will endeavour to make reasonable and appropriate adjustments to all curriculum materials for those pupils who require additional consideration.

7. Information for Students and Parents

7.1 Parents/Carers are routinely involved in reviewing provision for their child. (See SEND Policy). Reasonable and appropriate adjustments to the presentation of information will always be considered by St Benedict's Catholic High School. Such considerations will be appropriate to each individual situation; the following are examples of possible considerations:

- Large print format materials.
- The services of a language interpreter and a sign language interpreter

8. Evacuation Procedure

8.1 St Benedict's Catholic High School's evacuation procedures can and will be adapted to meet the specific needs of an individual as required. Such procedures will be discussed with the student and parents / carers and will be in student's SEND file and High Need Information. Students who may find emergency evacuation difficult will usually be supported through the process.

9. Linked Policies

9.1 This plan will contribute to the review and revision of related school documents and policies, including:

- The School Strategic Plan
- The School Development Plan
- Department Development Plans
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
- Admissions Policy
- Equality and diversity policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Curriculum Policies and Plans