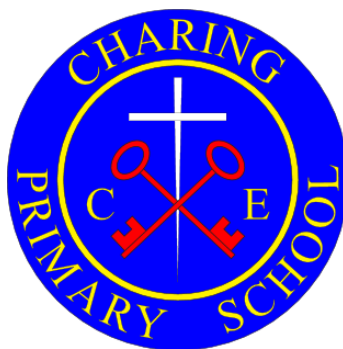


*...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk  
and not be faint.' Isaiah 40:31*

connect | nurture | aspire | learn | excel | hope



# Charing Church of England Primary School

## Accessibility Policy

Document Information	Responsibility
Date of review	SENCO
Date of new review	SENCO

### Our Vision

Our inclusive school is a place of creative learning where all talents are developed, celebrated and enjoyed. We nurture all to be curious, passionate and resilient lifelong learners. As a community, we listen to, forgive and love one another so all can be confident in who they are. Inspired by Jesus, we walk beside each individual in our family by understanding and responding to their unique needs. We have hope in all our children: that they grow to be open, compassionate people of the world who stand up for what is right.

### Our Values:

**Forgiveness - Resilience - Hope - Compassion - Friendship**

# ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

## Aims

Charing Primary School is committed to ensuring that all pupils have the right and equality of opportunity to access an outstanding education. This Accessibility Plan has been drawn up in consultation with the staff and governors of the School. This statement sets out the ways in which Charing Primary School provides 'access' to education for pupils with a disability. We are committed to working towards providing a fully accessible environment which values and includes all students, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are further committed to challenging attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion. We plan, over time, to increase the accessibility of provision for all students, staff and visitors to the School.

The following areas will form the basis of the Accessibility Plan with relevant actions to:

- Increase access to the curriculum, incorporating after-school and out of school activities and including educational visits;
- Improve access to the physical environment of the School;
- Improve the delivery of written information to students, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities.

As a Christian school, we, at Charing Primary School, recognise that we are all equal in God's eyes and we value the individuality of all of our children. Our school values of Forgiveness, Resilience, Hope, Compassion and Friendship are at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards regardless of their varied experiences and needs. We offer a broad and balanced curriculum, and have high expectations of all children. The well-being, achievements and attitudes of all our children matter. This policy is intended to help to ensure that our school ensures that all children have equal access to a high quality of education and all activities and experiences, irrespective of any disability or difficulties with learning that they may have.

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

- Single Equality Scheme
- Health & Safety Policy
- SEN Inclusion Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- School Prospectus

As curriculum policies are reviewed, a section relating to access will be added where appropriate. The School Prospectus will make reference to this Accessibility Plan.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues. The school supports any available partnerships to develop and implement the plan. Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets

out the process for raising these concerns. We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including staff, parents, pupils and governors.

## Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010 and the Department for Education (DfE) guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010. The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long-term' adverse effect on his or her ability to undertake normal day to day activities. Under the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice, 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer. Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils. This can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises. This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

## Current Practice

### Access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability

- Our school offers a adapted curriculum for all pupils, according to their level of need.
- We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum.
- Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.
- Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs.
- The curriculum is regularly reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.
- Staff training is offered to all staff to build awareness of different needs and disabilities.
- Staff work effectively with outside agencies to ensure that an appropriate level of expertise is accessed to help teachers plan for children with additional needs.
- All staff endeavour to work effectively with parents so that everyone understands the additional needs of pupils.
- Learning walks are carried out regularly to ensure that good practice is upheld at all times for all children including those with additional needs.
- The school's anti-bullying policy, vision and values supports tolerance, respect and kindness for all pupils and shapes the learning environment of the school.
- The school works to identify additional needs as early as possible and support is tailored to those needs across the school.
- Attendance for children with additional needs and other vulnerable learners is closely monitored to minimise impact on achievement.
- Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities and from a diverse range of backgrounds.

### Access to the physical environment

- The school is, for the most part, a single storey building.
- Corridors are of an acceptable width and are mostly free of clutter.
- There is 1 disabled toilet.

- There is a range of access points that are accessible for people with mobility difficulties or those who use a wheelchair.
- The staff car park does not have any marked disabled spaces, however if a space is needed, this can be requested and space will be left. Parents with a disability are able to access the car park before 8:20 and after 3:30, with wrap-around care provided.
- There are some ramps and many external doors and fire exits are accessible for wheelchair users.

### **Delivery of written information to pupils and parents/carers with a disability**

- Visual supports used widely across the school.
- Makaton use is increasing through the school and is now used in many classrooms
- Large print resources available as needed.
- Alternative coloured papers and overlays provided when required.
- Advice, support and resources, such as a hearing loop facility, are obtained from STLS when needed.

## **Action Plan**

Attached is an Action Plan, relating to these three key aspects of accessibility. These plans will be reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis. It is acknowledged that there will be the need for on-going awareness raising and training for all staff and governors in the matter of disability discrimination and the potential need to inform attitudes on this matter. The Action plan will be monitored through the Monitoring of the Governors. The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request. This plan outlines what we believe is current good practice and what the aims of our accessibility plan are in accordance with the Equality Act 2010:



## Improving access to the physical environment of schools

This includes improvements to the environment of the School, which can include visual, acoustic and physical environments. All new school buildings have to comply with the Building Regulations and the Education (School Premises) Regulations 2010 in conjunction with the Equality Act (2010) and should be physically accessible to disabled students. Much of the work in the area of improving the physical environment will therefore involve improving access to existing buildings.

Aim	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success Criteria
Improve and maintain access to the physical environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To review and adapt as needed all access points to the school.</li> <li>• To ensure that fire/smoke sensors are appropriate for all pupils and staff, including those with hearing and sight impairment.</li> <li>• To ensure that all pupils and staff who are wheelchair users or have mobility difficulties are able to evacuate the school quickly and safely in an emergency.</li> </ul>	<p>Investigate accessibility to the entire site.</p> <p>Ensure adequate fire evacuation facilities are available to any person with physical impairment.</p> <p>Ensure alternative assembly points for any physically impaired person and record in PEP.</p> <p>Personalised accessibility and evacuation plans to be written as needed for pupils &amp; staff.</p>	Site Team	Ongoing	<p>All users of the site can access all areas.</p> <p>All users of the site can evacuate the site if necessary.</p>

## Improving the delivery of written information to pupils and parents/carers with a disability

Aim	Objectives	Actions to be taken	Person responsible	Date to complete actions by	Success Criteria
<p>Improve the delivery of information to parents and pupils with any form of disability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ensure that written information normally provided by the school will take account of students' disabilities and parents' preferred formats. These adjustments will be made only if it improves the accessibility to the curriculum.</li> <li>All written information required in a different format to be made available within a reasonable timescale.</li> </ul>	<p>Increase the use of Makaton beyond classrooms to the wider school environment.</p> <p>Improve internal signage to show directions to different parts of the building.</p> <p>Induction loops to be installed throughout the school should this become necessary and deemed a "reasonable adjustment".</p>	<p>SENCO</p> <p>SENCO/ Site Team</p>	<p>Ongoing as necessary</p>	<p>All stakeholders can access information in order to improve accessibility to the curriculum.</p>

