



English Martyrs Catholic Primary School
"where everyone is special"



P19: Accessibility Plan 2016-2019

Mission Statement

With Christ at the heart of our Catholic community,
our mission is to:

- ✘ nurture the potential in each individual,
- ✘ celebrate achievement,
- ✘ and develop an awareness of service
to God and each other

Adopted by the school: July 2016
Review: July 2019

Introduction:

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, (DDA) and was further enhanced and modified by the Equality Act 2010 to cover education. These acts were introduced with the aim of ensuring that all disabled people have an opportunity to participate equally in society. Under the Equality Act, disability is a specific, 'Protected Characteristic'.

Responsibilities for the school under these acts with respect to disability are largely as follows:

- Not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability.
- To make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage.
- To plan to increase access to education for disabled pupils.

As well as our pupils and staff, we must make sure that other people who visit or use English Martyrs School can use our facilities with ease. We want to provide an accessible and comfortable place for everyone who uses it.

This plan sets out the school's proposals to increase access to education for disabled pupils in three areas and is valid for the period July 2016 to July 2019:

- To increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum.
- To improve the environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled pupils can take advantage of education and associated services.
- To improve the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

Current Arrangements:

English Martyrs Accessibility Policy

- English Martyrs' Accessibility Policy encourages people to discuss with us disability considerations with respect to their child or themselves, so that individual plans can be put in place. This will ensure that they can be given the most effective opportunity and access. However, it remains our policy to have due regard to accessibility for all with respect to any decisions made affecting accessibility and the policies therein.

Physical Access to Buildings and Classrooms.

- The physical access to English Martyrs has improved considerably over the past few years.

- The current premises design and layout has full regard for accessibility and includes ramped entrances/exits into the two main sites of the school and out onto the field via the school hall. The main building also incorporates an accessible toilet/wet room.
- The playground is also fully accessible with no restrictions as these are level with the main school building.

Evacuation Procedures

- English Martyrs fire and evacuation policy lays down basic procedures for the safe efficient evacuation of the school buildings. These procedures could be adapted to meet the specific needs of an individual. Such procedures will be discussed with the pupil and parents and could be set out in the individual plan for the pupil.
- The current evacuation assembly point is to meet on the games playground in year group order. Each class has a different fire exit from their classrooms and have a different route to the playground. In extreme circumstances, the school would evacuate to English Martyrs Church and/or Ashlawn Secondary School.

Curriculum Access – Teaching and Learning

- At English Martyrs, our aim is that pupils with disabilities should as far as possible have access to a full and broad curriculum, similar to that followed by their peers.
- At English Martyrs we will do everything in our power to support pupils with a range of disabilities including, sight and hearing and physical disability as well as learning difficulties of varying degrees. Decisions are to be taken on an individual basis with due regard for a child's needs.
- Our teachers understand that pupils have different ways of learning and adapt their lessons to the different groups within their class: this is part of the universal provision.

Informal curriculum

- Children at English Martyrs have always been able to participate fully in the wide range of activities offered beyond the classroom consistent with the limitations imposed by any disability.
- At English Martyrs arrangements for play, recreation and other aspects of a child's social development are incorporated into the child's individual education plan. The suitability of any event and the need for additional support is discussed fully with the parents in advance.

Access to Written Information

We currently have a varied methodology for communicating with parents, carers and pupils. These include:

- *Repeating the information whilst speaking at parent attended assemblies and parents evenings.*
- *Notes we send home with pupils about specific events and projects.*
- *Newsletters (at least four a term)*
- *Regular whole school and individual parent emails.*
- *Information from our website.*
- *Phoning parents when we know that they cannot read the information we send home.*

Action Plans:

Item/Issue	Action to be taken	Date planned for completion
1. Most doors in classrooms and alongside corridors are not fitted with slow closures to avoid fingers being trapped and to enable more time for children to walk through the door safely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All classrooms doors to be replaced with glass for safeguarding and finger traps and slow closures fitted. • One set of fire doors removed alongside main corridor in main block. The other set of fire doors to be replaced with doors that fit more tightly to the walls and automatically close when a fire bell is triggered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 2016 • September 2016
2. The ramps and steps in identified areas need to be painted for a child with visual difficulties in foundation stage to enable them to walk around the site safely without adult support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramps on entry to the Ark Building and on to the outside classroom need to be painted in bright yellow. • Ramps into the main site to be painted in bright yellow. • Ramps going out onto the field to be painted in bright yellow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All painting to be completed by 1st week of September 2016
3. The wet room/disabled toilet/ electric bed to be regularly inspected and maintained with appropriate resources to cater for children with toileting needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All electrical equipment to be tested. • Purchase of changing equipment and resources to be purchased for specific needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st half term of each year • September 2016