



ST BEDE'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Accessibility Statement

Approved by: LGC

Last reviewed on: October 2025

Next review due by: October 2027

St. Bede's Catholic Primary School 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.

St. Bede's Catholic Primary School 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.

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

“They have a physical or mental impairment that has an adverse, substantial and long-term effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities”.

St. Bede's Primary School 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 needs
- Overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individual groups of pupils.

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

a) **Improving education and related activities:** St. Bede's Primary School will seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisors and SEN advisors, and of appropriate health professionals from the NHS Trust.

b) **Improving the physical environment:** St. Bede's Primary School 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, such as improved access, lighting, acoustic treatment and colour schemes and more accessible facilities and fittings.

c) **Improving the provision of information:** St. Bede's Primary School will make itself aware of the local services, including those provided through the LA, for providing information alternative formats when required or requested.

Contextual information

St. Bede's Primary School is a highly inclusive school, it is housed in two buildings over two levels: Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 are on the lower level of the main building. The school office, IT Suite and Headteacher's office are also in the main building on the lower level. The School Hall is also on the lower ground level and is accessed by three steps; step-free access is available via a lift or entrance from the school yard where a ramp is located.

The lower level is accessible to the whole school community. There are ramps to ease access, and the School Office is located on the main level, assistance can be provided with regards to accessing the school premises during the school hours and Main Entrance is equipped with wide doors for ease of entry.

We also have a 'mobile' classroom that is used for Nurse provision.

Information about the school's disabled population

The school's population can have children who have some kind of impairment, be it physical or mental. Some children have moderate and specific learning difficulties.

Nursery transition visits are undertaken for all children beginning Nursery and Reception whether any additional needs have been identified or not. The LA and health advisers are contacted for support and guidance.

Staff are trained in the use of EpiPens where necessary and several members of staff 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. Where children have significant health problems, all appropriate adults are informed.

How appropriate is the current provision?

Staff are highly aware by effective communication of the issues faced by 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.

Recent projects to improve the physical environment have included:

- Redecoration and decluttering of classrooms and corridors and improving the learning environment.

Targets for 2025-2027:

- Continue to improve learning environment.
- Initial plans are being developed to improve the entrance for pupils onto the school premises.
- Look into improving accessibility of the premises where necessary.