



**primary school and Guardian Angels CPS**

**St Anne's and Guardian Angels**

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'Excellence together with Christ at the Centre'

# Accessibility Policy

May 2023

Renewal date May 2025

## **Introduction**

At St Anne's and Guardian Angels primary school we are committed to providing an environment that enables full access and participation in the school community for all children and adults with a disability.

We have high expectations of all pupils.

We are committed to taking positive action in the light of the Equality Act, 2010 with regard to disability. We are a very inclusive school and work to promote a culture of support and awareness.

The definition of disability under the law is a wide one. A disabled person is someone who has 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.***

Physical or mental impairment includes sensory impairments and also hidden impairments. In the DDA 'substantial' means 'more than minor or trivial.' 'Long term' means 'has lasted or is likely to last more than 12 months.'

The definition includes people with a Hearing or Visual Impairment, Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, mental health issues and incontinence. People with ADHD, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Downs Syndrome and Hydrocephalus are included. Medical conditions such as Cystic Fibrosis, severe Asthma, Diabetes, Cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, Epilepsy, Sickle Cell Anemia and HIV are deemed disabilities. Facial disfigurement, severe Dyslexia, gross obesity and diagnosed eating disorders are all included.

The test of whether the impairment affects normal day to day activity is whether it affects one or more of the following:

Mobility,  
Manual dexterity,  
Physical co-ordination,  
Continence,  
Ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects,  
Speech, hearing or eyesight,  
Memory or ability to concentrate, learn or understand,  
Perception of risk or physical danger.

### **At St Anne's and Guardian Angels primary school**

- We will continue to make reasonable adjustments to avoid disabled children or adults being placed at a disadvantage.
- We recognise the need to continually evaluate our practice to ensure that a child with a disability will benefit from what we offer to the same extent as a child without a disability
- We do not discriminate against disabled pupils, with regards to admissions simply because a child has a disability and this is reflected in our Admissions Policy.
- We will provide auxiliary aids or services for a disabled pupil, when it is reasonable to do so, to ensure that the pupil is not at a disadvantage in comparison to other pupils.

The school has an accessibility plan, which is published on the school's website and which aims to:

- Improve the physical environment of the school to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of education, benefits, facilities and services provided (the whole life of the school),
- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils and parents.

We will review the plan each year and rewrite the plan every three years.

### **The physical environment of the school**

St Anne's and Guardian Angels primary school is on one level. The corridors and doors are generally wide with good disabled access to all areas. The entrance is approached by a ramp. There is a low window in reception for visitors in wheelchairs. There is one toilet for the disabled. All areas have ramp access to the playground.

### **Participation in the Curriculum**

At St Anne's and Guardian Angels, all pupils have access to a full, broad and balanced curriculum and we are committed to overcoming potential barriers to learning for pupils with a disability.

The school provides resources, auxiliary aids, equipment and support to ensure that pupils are fully able to access the curriculum.

Classroom organisation also contributes to accessibility.

Pupils with a disability are fully able to participate in out of school visits, after school clubs and cultural activities.

We seek advice on the provision of resources from Tower Hamlets support services such as specialist teachers, advisors, outreach teams and health professionals.

Support staff are deployed according to individual pupil's needs.

Training is given to teachers and TAs to teach and support pupils with a disability.

### **Availability of Accessible Information**

In class we ensure texts are of the correct font and size for pupils with a Visual Impairment.

Touch screen computers improve the access for some children with disabilities.

Children with disabilities choose their own means to represent their views in Annual Reviews, including video presentations as well as PowerPoint's and Mind maps.

At St Anne's and Guardian Angels believes that pupil and parent voice is extremely important and plays a vital role in shaping and guiding each child's education.

This policy can be read alongside:

- Accessibility Plan
- Equality policy and objectives
- Safeguarding
- Anti-Bullying
- Behaviour for Learning

Updated May 2023

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