



HOLY TRINITY
Church of England Academy
Brockley Avenue, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE34 0TS

Accessibility Policy

Here in Holy Trinity CE Academy we value all members of our school community as learners, nurturing and empowering them to become the best they can possibly be.

‘Growing and Learning Together in Love’

As in the example of our Lord Jesus Christ

‘Love one another as I have loved you’

John 13:34

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1. Introduction

This plan is drawn up in accordance with the planning duty in the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA). It draws on the guidance set out in “Accessible Schools: Planning to increase access to schools for disabled pupils”, issued by DfES in July 2002 and Children and Families Act 2014, Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 year (July 2014). Disability is defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA):“ A person has a disability 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 carry out normal day to day activities”.

2. Aim

To reduce and eliminate barriers to access to the curriculum and to full participation in the school community for pupils, and prospective pupils, with a disability.

3. Principles

1. Compliance with DDA is consistent with the school’s aims and the operation of the school’s SEN policy;
2. The Academy recognises its duty under the DDA (as amended by the SENDA):
 - a. not to discriminate against disabled pupils in their admissions and exclusions, and provision of education and associated services
 - b. not to treat disabled pupils less favourably for a reason related to their disability
 - c. to make reasonable adjustments to avoid putting disabled pupils at a substantial disadvantage
 - d. to publish an Accessibility Plan that will increase access to education for disabled pupils.
3. In performing their duties, governors and staff will have regard to the DRC Code of Practice (2002);
4. The Academy recognises and values parents’ knowledge of their child’s disability and its effect on his or her ability to carry out normal activities, and respects the parents’ and the child’s right to confidentiality;

5. The Academy provides all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated and adjusted to meet the needs of individual pupils and their preferred learning styles; and endorses the key principles in the National Curriculum 2014 framework, which underpin the development of a more inclusive curriculum:
 - a. setting suitable learning challenges
 - b. responding to pupils' diverse learning needs
 - c. overcoming potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils.

4. Linked Policies

This Plan will contribute to the review and revision of the School Improvement Plan and to related school policies, including:

- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Supporting pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

This section outlines the main activities which the school undertakes, and is planning to undertake, to achieve the key objective (above).

- a. The Academy will continue to seek and follow the advice of LA services, such as specialist teacher advisers and SEN inspectors, and of appropriate health professionals from the local NHS Trusts.
- b. The Academy 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. The Academy will make itself aware of local services, including those provided through the Local Authority, for providing information in alternative formats when required or requested.