

Accessibility Plan 2016-2017

Introduction

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 was extended to include education by the SEN and Disability Act 2001 (SENDA). The board of Directors of St Joseph's Catholic College recognises the following duties that this places upon them;

- 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 make reasonable adjustments to the school buildings, so that there is an increased access to education for disabled pupils and to make the school building more accessible for disabled persons.

The planning duties of the DDA makes three requirements of the Governing body

- 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
- Improving the delivery to disabled pupils of information which is provided in writing for pupils who are not disabled.

Schools are required to resource, implement and review their accessibility plan as necessary. This plan will be monitored and evaluated by the sites Facilities Manager. The plan attached sets out the Facilities Managers proposals for increasing access to education for disabled pupils and for increasing the college's provision for DDA compliancy.

Disability and St Joseph's Catholic College

A person has a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out day to day activities. – the DDA definition of disability

St Joseph's Catholic College policy on equal opportunities and disability is to ensure that there is no discrimination against any sub-group within its community, be it because of sex, religion, race, colour or disability. With this in mind the school has put in place policies and procedures so that disabled people are not treated less favourably in the service, education or support they receive than people without a disability. Meeting these requirements is consistent with the school's Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Policy as well as Equal Opportunities Policy.

Access to this plan:

This plan will be made available upon request to any current parent or prospective parent who requests it. We will also hand this plan to any parent of a disabled child who makes an enquiry about a place for their child at the school. This plan will also be made available to any member of staff or applicant for a post at the school who requests it.

This plan will be shared with Senior Management and will inform relevant aspects of the school's development plan.

This plan will be made available to Ofsted and ISI inspectors upon request.

Supporting Policies:

Equality and Diversity Policy

SEN Policy

Previous Adaptations made to the school;

- Installation of reception DDA access door control into and out of the college in 2011.
- Installation of twin automated doors allowing DDA access into and out of the college in 2012

2015

- Accessible parking spaces have been marked out
- All site doors have been adjusted to minimise the force required to open them.
- 2 portable induction loops are now available from reception to aid any hard of hearing staff, students or visitors to site.
- Accessible WC facilities have been fitted with a lever style locking system.
- Accessible toilets alarm cords have been lengthened to ensure they reach the floor and now hang loose to enable easy use.
- Induction loop installed in the hall
- Evacuation chairs are now on site and positioned in the main refuge areas. Staff have been fully trained in the use of the chairs
- As part of the PPM schedule regular checks are made to ensure escape routes are clear.

Objective	Strategy	Outcome	Timescale and Owner	Goal
Improving Access to site Internally and Externally				
Install an induction loop signage at the Reception desk to highlight facility.	Ensure staff members are aware the facility is available if needed.	Support for hard of hearing visitors	Facilities Manager to investigate costing –8 Weeks	To Highlight the available facility to hard of hearing visitors.
Decrease opening pressures on doors that require more than 30 Newton’s of force to open.	Additional task to be added into current PPM task.	Doors easier to open	On-going via Premises Officer for Maintenance	Improved all round support for people opening manual doors.
Install induction loop signage in the Main Hall	Train staff members on its use	Support for hard of hearing visitors	Facilities Manager to investigate costing –8 Weeks	To Highlight the available facility to hard of hearing visitors.
Training on EVAC chair and signage	Refresher training to be carried out with staff and update the Fire Risk Assessment	Safe removal of person/s to a safe place, trained staff.	8 weeks	Increased Fire Safety for Staff, Students and Visitors
Cord Alarms in disabled toilets are kept floor length and ensure they are hanging freely	Added to PPM task to ensure cords are hanging freely	Monitoring of cords.	weekly	To enable free use of cord alarms

Objective	Strategy	Outcome	Timescale and Owner	Goal Achieved
Improving Access to site Internally and Externally				
Install an induction loop and signage for the Community Reception desk	Train staff members on its use	Support for hard of hearing visitors	FM to investigate costing 8 Weeks	Provision put into place for hard of hearing visitors.
Install an induction loop and signage for the Gym	Train staff members on its use	Support for hard of hearing visitors	FM to investigate costing 8 Weeks	Provision put into place for hard of hearing visitors.
Install an induction loop and signage for the Sports Hall	Train staff members on its use	Support for hard of hearing visitors, more trained staff.	FM to investigate costing 8 weeks	Provision put into place for hard of hearing visitors.

Add colour contrast at 2 heights to support post at entrance to college	To provide an aid to visually impaired staff, students and visitors to identify the post.	Aid in highlighting posts presence	FM to investigate costing 8 weeks	Post more visible to those visually impaired
Incoming External doors– Install colour contrasted stickers on glass panels	To aid visually impaired staff, students or visitors to clearly identify doorways	Highlight entrance points.	FM to investigate costing 8 weeks	Entrances to college are clearly visible.
Install colour contrasted fixed rails next to end urinal in boys toilets.	To aid students balance when using the WC facility's	Provide visible fixed point of contact	FM to investigate costs 8 weeks	Students will have fixed rail to use for balance when using the WC facilities. Colour contrasting will provide a visual aid.