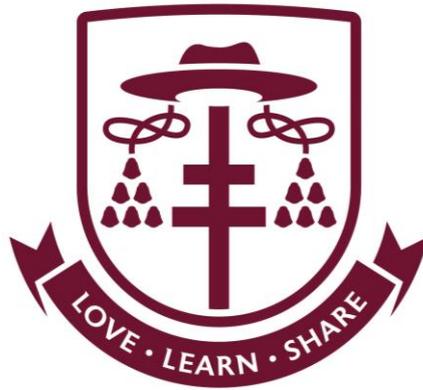


# St Charles' VC Academy



**ST CHARLES'**  
VC ACADEMY

## Accessibility plan

Approved by:	To be formally approved by Directors December 2019	Date: 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2019
Last reviewed on:		
Next review due by:	Easter 2020	

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## 1. Aims

Schools are required under the Equality Act 2010 to have an accessibility plan. The purpose of the plan is 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

Our school aims to treat all its pupils fairly and with respect. This involves providing access and opportunities for all pupils without discrimination of any kind. At St Charles' VC Academy, our mission is to Love, Learn and Serve to our fullest potential and that our school values of Resilience, Empathy, Aspiration, Contribution and Happiness are not just vital for successful learning but are essential life skills.

The plan will be made available online on the school website, and paper copies are available upon request.

Our school is also committed to ensuring staff are trained in equality issues with reference to the Equality Act 2010, including understanding disability issues.

Our school's complaints procedure covers the accessibility plan. If you have any concerns relating to accessibility in school, this procedure sets out the process for raising these concerns.

We have included a range of stakeholders in the development of this accessibility plan, including: pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school].

## 2. Legislation and guidance

This document meets the requirements of [schedule 10 of the Equality Act 2010](#) and the Department for Education (DfE) [guidance for schools on the Equality Act 2010](#).

The Equality Act 2010 defines an individual as disabled 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 undertake normal day to day activities.

Under the [Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Code of Practice](#), 'long-term' is defined as 'a year or more' and 'substantial' is defined as 'more than minor or trivial'. The definition includes sensory impairments such as those affecting sight or hearing, and long-term health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and cancer.

Schools are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' for pupils with disabilities under the Equality Act 2010, to alleviate any substantial disadvantage that a disabled pupil faces in comparison with non-disabled pupils.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

### 3. Action plan

This action plan sets out the aims of our accessibility plan in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Aim	Current good practice <i>Include established practice and practice under development</i>	Objectives <i>State short, medium and long-term objectives</i>	Actions to be taken	Time frame	Success criteria
<p>Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability</p>	<p><i>Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils. We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum. Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities. Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability. Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs. The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.</i></p>	<p>For the school to be aware of the access needs of disabled pupils, staff, directors, parents/carers and visitors.</p>	<p>CREATE ACCESS PLANS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISABLED PUPILS WHEN REQUIRED.</p> <p>BE AWARE OF STAFF, GOVERNORS AND PARENTS ACCESS NEEDS AS APPROPRIATE.</p> <p>CONSIDER ACCESS NEEDS DURING RECRUITMENT PROCESS.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>IEPS in place for disabled pupils and all staff are aware of pupils needs.</p> <p>All staff and directors feel confident their needs are met.</p> <p>Parents have full access to all school activities</p> <p>Access issues do not influence recruitment and retention.</p>
<p>Improve and maintain access to the physical environment</p>	<p><i>The environment is adapted to the needs of pupils as required. This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ramps</i></li> <li>• <i>Corridor width</i></li> <li>• <i>Disabled parking bays</i></li> </ul>	<p>Layout of school to allow access for all pupils to all areas.</p>	<p>ENSURE CORRIDORS ARE KEPT CLEAR AT ALL TIMES ENSURE SIGNAGE AND EXIT ROUTES</p>	<p>2019-2020</p>	<p>Access for all</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Disabled toilets and changing facilities</i></li> <li>• <i>Library shelves at wheelchair-accessible height</i></li> </ul>		ARE CLEARLY MARKED.		
Improve the delivery of information to pupils with a disability	<p><i>Our school uses a range of communication methods to ensure information is accessible. This includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Internal signage</i></li> <li>• <i>Large print resources</i></li> <li>• <i>Pictorial or symbolic representations</i></li> </ul>	Improved access of information to parents/carers	<p>IMPROVE ORGANISATION OF INFORMATION ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE</p> <p>DEVELOP THE USE OF TWITTER AND SOCIAL MEDIA.</p> <p>FURTHER DEVELOP THE USE OF TEXTS</p> <p>DEVELOP THE USE OF EMAIL TO DISTRIBUTE NEWSLETTERS.</p>	2019-2020	<p>All parents and carers can access information quickly and easily in a variety of ways</p> <p>Improved delivery of information</p>
To develop a parent's group to support families of children with SEND	<p><i>Our school offers a differentiated curriculum for all pupils. We use resources tailored to the needs of pupils who require support to access the curriculum. Curriculum resources include examples of people with disabilities. Curriculum progress is tracked for all pupils, including those with a disability.</i></p>		SEN, PASTORAL AND COMMUNITY TO WORK TOGETHER TO ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND THE SCHOOL THROUGH MEETINGS, PROJECTS AND EVENTS.	2020 SUMMER TERM	<p>The school will have a supportive group of parents who will share information, provide support and fundraise</p> <p>Improve information sharing support and relationships</p>

	<p><i>Targets are set effectively and are appropriate for pupils with additional needs. The curriculum is reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of all pupils.</i></p>				
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#### 4. Monitoring arrangements

This document will be reviewed every 3 years, but may be reviewed and updated more frequently if necessary.

It will be approved by the Board of Directors.

#### 5. Links with other policies

This accessibility plan is linked to the following policies and documents:

- Risk assessment policy
- Health and safety policy
- Equality information and objectives (public sector equality duty) statement for publication
- Special educational needs (SEN) information report
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy



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