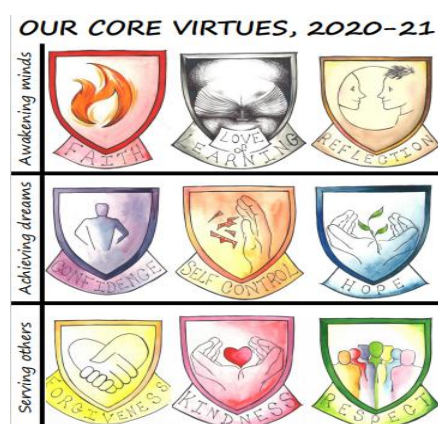


## Holy Family Catholic School Accessibility Plan

### Holy Family Catholic School Ethos

Holy Family Catholic School is an inclusive school where all students are equally valued. Our ambition is for all students to achieve the best possible outcomes. We provide high quality inclusive teaching for all students to enable them to reach their full potential. We aim to give students the knowledge and cultural capital to succeed in life. Our SEND report outlines some of the ways we work with and support our students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Through our virtues we live out the vision and values of the school. We believe that our school is made better through our virtues. We are guided in our practice by the Church, by our Diocese, and by good practice in Catholic character education.



### Definition of Disability

The Equality Act 2010 defines a disabled person as someone who has a 'physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' or 'long term' negative effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day to day activities'.

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 can include, for example, the provision of an auxiliary aid or adjustments to premises.

### Objectives

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

- To reduce and eliminate barriers to access the curriculum and the enable full participation in all activities at Holy Family for students with a disability
- 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

Holy Family Catholic 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.

### **Meeting the Equality Act 2010 at Holy Family Catholic School**

Holy Family meets the Equality Act 2010 in the following ways:

- Candidates sitting exams will be covered by the Equality Act 2010 and the JCQ Regulations, laptops will be available specifically for examinations
- The SEND Team will work closely with the examinations officer to ensure that barriers to achievement are removed
- Lessons will be planned to ensure that they meet the needs of all students within the classroom
- All evidence to support an Access Arrangement will be investigated
- Ensuring the talents of Disabled students are represented
- Lessons are differentiated to meet students needs
- The Admissions Policy gives equal rights to all potential applications regardless of disability
- Support is provided to students with additional needs
- All students are treated equally and given opportunities to enjoy and achieve
- The SEND Team maintain close links with external agencies to receive advice and support for students with SEND
- A lift is available in the core of the school accessible by a key, students who require access are given a key with training on use of the lift.
- Year 6-7 students participate in transition activities to support their orientation at the school. SEND students receive a comprehensive package of transition support.
- The main reception is adequately signed
- Disabled space is available close to the main reception
- The school has a disabled toilet
- Financial planning is in place to support purchase of ICT equipment if required.
- Blinds are fitted in every classroom with external windows
- There is an anti-glare coating on all external classroom windows
- There is a school wheelchair that is available for use outside the building if required
- Hearing Impaired and Visually Impaired students provision to be reviewed through whole school Quality Assurance

### **Monitoring and Review**

It is essential that students with a disability are able to access all aspects of school life. This policy will be reviewed every year but may be updated more frequently if necessary.

### **Links to other policies**

This Accessibility Plan is linked to the following documents:

- Inclusion Policy
- SEND report