

St Wilfrid’s RC College

**Accessibility Plan**

**4 July, 2017 the policy agreed by Governors**

As noted in the Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years, all schools must make reasonable adjustments in order to increase access for disabled pupils to the curriculum, the physical environment and to information, in order to prevent discrimination, to promote equality of opportunity and to foster good relations.

**Mission Statement:**

At St. Wilfrid’s Roman Catholic College we are committed to inspire and develop all members of our community on a journey through faith and learning.

We strive to achieve excellence and overcome challenges through mutual respect and consideration, underpinned by Gospel values.

Faith and learning is at the heart of everything we do to ensure that every child fulfils their full potential.

**School aims**

We recognise that each student has unique and individual God-given talents. We must strive to allow and support each student, to fulfil their potential.

Different techniques will be required because they will need to be directed towards the needs of the individual.

A wide programme of studies and opportunities must be provided to allow each student to develop and mature.

This programme involves not only the usual teaching situation but will involve all members of the college community and make use of and support the wider community in which we live.

The college should be welcoming and caring and the views of each student valued and respected.

The college is a community in which all who work and learn therein should respect all others.

Co-operation is essential in order that the community may function effectively.

We must actively seek to enhance relationships amongst all members of the college community.

It is inevitable that relationships break down from time to time. We must be willing to reconcile with others and strive to rebuild broken relationships.

Each member of the college community is on a personal journey of faith. Support and opportunity must be provided to encourage this.

Each student must be encouraged to follow not only a high moral code but to accept Christian values and practices with particular reference to the Catholic faith.

The importance of the family as a unit is fundamental in all our teaching processes.

All students should gradually be given more responsibility in order that they may mature effectively. This responsibility is not only for their own development, but, to practise gospel values in the wider community.

St Wilfrid’s RC College, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010, defines a person has a disability if:

1. He or she has a physical or mental impairment, and
2. The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

The following accessibility plan has been produced using guidance from the Equality Act 2010, in order to ensure St Wilfrid’s RC College does not discriminate against a pupil in the way it provides education for the pupil (including participation in the school’s curriculum), access to the facility and access to information. It is a projected plan for a three year period, which will be constantly monitored ahead of the review date.

The Accessibility Plan shows how access is provided for disabled pupils, staff and visitors to the school, in addition to anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable. The Accessibility Plan contains relevant actions to: -

* Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability, in addition to altering the curriculum as necessary and practicable, to ensure that pupils with a disability are as equally prepared for life (as stated in the duty of the school under the Equalities Act 2010)
* Quality first teaching where teaching and learning is monitored and reviewed in addition to the development of a wider curriculum such as participation in school clubs, cultural activities and school trips.
* The provision of specialist and auxiliary aids and equipment, which may assist pupils in accessing the curriculum within a reasonable timeframe and setting.
* Access to the physical environment.
* Provide delivery of written information to pupils, staff, parents and visitors with disabilities.

This Accessibility Plan is not a standalone document and should be read in conjunction with other school policies and documents. Where appropriate this document will be reviewed in consultation with the Local Authority, relevant experts and the Diocese.

1. **Aims**

* Increase access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability
* Maintain access to the physical environment
* Improve the delivery of written information to pupils.

1. **Current good practice**

As part of transition procedures, we aim to clarify disability or health conditions in early communications with parents/carers, previous educational establishments and where possible pupils. Data is constantly reviewed with parents/carers of pupils on roll to ensure alterations are accurate and needs are addressed.

**Physical Environment**

All pupils are given the opportunity to participate in a range of in-class and extra-curricular activities where appropriate. Some aspects of extra-curricular activities may present particular challenges, for example: lunch and break times for pupils with social/interaction impairments, after-school clubs for pupils with physical impairments, school trips for pupils with medical needs; however, adjustments are made to allow participation where practicable. Access to all areas of the school is good as most areas have wheelchair access; disabled pupils have the use of lifts and disabled toilets are available.

**Curriculum**

Reasonable adjustments can be made to allow access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability. This may require for example, but not exclusive to, additional practical aids including access to IT, alterations in delivery and access to assessment aids such as a scribe. The level of adjustments required to aid access to all aspects of the curriculum will be discussed with the pupil, parents/carers and the relevant teams supporting the pupil.

**Information**

As the majority of information is directed home via pupils, it may be necessary that different forms of communication are made available to enable all SEND pupils and their parents/carers to access the information in a format appropriate to them. This will be discussed with all parties involved. Pupil and parent voice is important at St Wilfrid’s Roman Catholic College in order to provide a platform for all involved in the care of the pupil to express their views and to hear the views of others. Access to information is therefore discussed, planned and reviewed with a range of different formats available for disabled pupils, parents and staff.

1. **Access Audit**

St Wilfrid’s RC College comprises of a two storey main building with several access points from outside. All areas of the building are accessible from the main entrance. Some of the doors are automatic and have a ramp to aid access where appropriate. Both floors have disabled toilets which are fitted with a handrail and a pull emergency cord. These have handrails and wide doors. A lift provides access between the ground and first floor, with a specialised wheelchair lift fitted along the main corridor to access the other main area. Evac chairs are located at the top of all stairwells. Nichols Hall on the ground floor is accessible to all, with a ramp for emergency access/exit. Within the science department a modified work station is fitted in one of the rooms with an adjustable height facility.

At St Wilfrid’s RC College there is on-site car parking for staff and visitors which includes dedicated disabled parking bays. Tactile paving is found in the car park area and within the grounds system as an indicator of the end of footpaths and start of stairs, with DDA compliant stair markings. All entrances to the school are either flat or ramped and all have wide doors fitted. The main entrance features a secure lobby and has been fitted with a low reception hatch, this being fully accessible to wheelchair users. The main building and reception area benefits from a hearing loop system.

In order to provide access for all needs the audit will be reviewed on an annual basis or revised if the need arises.