

# **Corpus Christi Catholic College**

**‘Laborare est orare’ To work is to pray**

## **Policy**

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### **Accessibility Plan**

**Reviewed and approved by: Academy Council**

**Approval date: April 2023**

**Review date: April 2024**

**Version: 1.0**

## **1. Aim**

The SEN and Disability Act 2001 extended the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) to cover education. Since September 2002, the Governing Body has had three key duties towards disabled students, under Part 4 of the DDA:

- not to treat disabled students less favourably for a reason related to their disability;
- to make reasonable adjustments for disabled students, so that they are not at a substantial disadvantage;
- to plan to increase access to education for disabled students.

This plan sets out the proposals of the Governing Body of the college to increase access to education for disabled students in the three areas required by the planning duties in the DDA:

- increasing the extent to which disabled students can participate in the college curriculum;
- improving the environment of the college to increase the extent to which disabled students can take advantage of education and associated services;
- Improving the delivery to disabled students of information which is provided in writing for students who are not disabled.

It is a requirement that the college's accessibility plan is resourced, implemented and reviewed and revised as necessary. Attached is a set of action plans showing how the college will address the priorities identified in the plan.

## **2. Vision**

The purpose and direction of the college's plan: vision and values

Corpus Christi Catholic College is committed to excellence in safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children, staff members and visitors, including those with disabilities. The experience provided by the College is directed towards the principles of independence, dignity, integration and equal opportunity for all.

Corpus Christi Catholic College is an academy which is a member of the St Gregory the Great Catholic Academy Trust whose focus is on each individual, acknowledging both their rights and responsibilities. Corpus Christi Catholic College is committed to meeting the social, emotional, educational, behavioural, physical and spiritual needs of each child or young person.

Teaching and Learning drives an ambitious curriculum that seeks to stretch and challenge all students through academic rigour. A strong care, support and guidance structure supports learning throughout the college.

Our vision is to create opportunities within and beyond the curriculum to enable each student to become confident, independent and successful citizens in modern Britain. Through dedication and hard work our students will have a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. We widen the aspirations of all students, to help them to reach destinations that are ambitious and fulfilling.

We have high expectations of academic success and discipline and believe that these are best achieved in a caring environment. We promote respect and good manners; these are fundamental to our college based on our shared Values and Expectations. We recognise the importance of each individual and the college's place in the local community. We aim to promote lifelong learning by developing creative, independent and reflective learners. We believe in the equality of opportunity and in celebrating success for all.

Students with disabilities are regularly reviewed to ensure that the college meets their needs. Disabled students have the rights to access the full college curriculum and the wider college life. All staff have a duty of care to ensure disabled students needs are fully met and their needs are regularly updated on SIMs for all staff to see. The resource base also supports students with disabilities and is available to offer advice and support to both staff and students.

The college has set the following priorities for the development of the vision and values that inform the plan:

- Ensure students can move safely around college.
- Ensure students can access the full curriculum.

### **Resource Base**

Corpus Christi Catholic College has a dedicated Resource Provision which has specialist resources to support students with SEND

- hearing and visual impairments
- physical and medical needs
- complex communication needs
- learning difficulties

### **Information from pupil data and school audit**

The proportion of students from minority ethnic backgrounds is above average.

The proportion of students who speak English as an additional language is above average.

The proportion of disadvantaged students known to be eligible for the pupil premium is above average.

The proportion of students with SEN support is above average.

The proportion of students with an SEN statement or Education, Health and Care plan (EHC) is above average.

## Strengths and weaknesses of the college working with disabled students.

<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Weaknesses</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specialist Resource Provision</li><li>• Staff awareness of the student's needs. Staff have access to the needs via SIMS.</li><li>• The college is designed so that all students have access to the majority of areas of the college by having a lift and gradual ramps.</li><li>• There is a team of teaching assistants within the college that can support with accessing the building and curriculum.</li><li>• Some Students have 1:1 support depending on their need.</li><li>• The curriculum is fully personalised to meet all student's needs.</li><li>• Good relationships with external agencies, including occupational therapy and the physiotherapy team.</li><li>• Students are fully involved in the college life and ethos of the college.</li><li>• Positive relationships with parents.</li><li>• Adjustable tables are available in all areas of the college.</li><li>• Changing facilities for students who require intimate care.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on college website is not accessible for all.</li><li>• Restricted access to the art rooms, performing arts and the sub-gym</li></ul>

The college has set the following priorities for the development of information and data to support the college's accessibility plan:

- Information on college website that is accessible to all students and parents of all disabilities.
- Investigate solutions to the access issues in art and sub-gym

### 3. The main priorities in the college's plan

Increasing the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the school curriculum:

- The curriculum is fully inclusive and personalised. Staff are deployed effectively to meet the needs of the students. Teaching assistant and support staff are deployed based on the need of the students.

Improving the physical environment of the school to increase the extent to which disabled students can take advantage of education and associated services:

- The design of the school is to accommodate all students and be fully inclusive. There is restricted disabled access to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor art rooms, performing arts and the basement sub-gym.

Changes to the environment:

- Installation of a lift to service the art rooms
- Installation of access ramps or lift to the sub gym and performing arts

Major funding would be needed to facilitate the changes.

#### **4. Management, coordination and implementation:**

The governing body takes responsibility for the plan with input from SENDCo. The plan will be reviewed annually with a view to re-writing every three years.

#### **5. Action Plan**

Need	Responsibility	Time scales	Resources	Outcomes
Disabled access- Art and Sub-gym	SEND department and governors	As needed.	Lift and ramps	All students will be able to access the curriculum even after operations or when struggling due to disability.
Website accessibility	SENDCo, Business Manager and website provider	As needed	External agencies and support services: for example, translations, braille or audio clip	Parents are aware if they require information in an alternative way, it can be provided.