



St Brigid's School

To Inspire and be Inspired Accessibility Plan Policy

Report Author	RJ/ PEJ
Report Status	Ongoing
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Accessibility Plan for St Brigid's 2013 - 2018

Introduction

- The Special needs and Disability Discrimination Act (2001) requires that all schools should plan to increase access to school for disabled pupils. (NAW Circular 15/2004)
- St Brigid's School Strategic Equality Plan states
"We aim to ensure that the school is a place where everyone- irrespective of their race, language, colour, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, size, religious or political beliefs, ethnic or national origin, previous occupation or **disability** - feels welcomed and valued."
- We feel strongly as a school that we will endeavour to ensure that the school becomes more readily accessible to all pupils, parents, teachers and visitors who have physical disabilities.
- Taking action to ensure that disabled members of the school community are seen in a positive light through publications promoting disability and providing positive role models of adults with disabilities to encourage success and achievement.

Action Planning:

- A Disabled Access Survey was carried out by Denbighshire County Council in 2004 and is monitored annually.
- The school liaises with DCC and WG Capital Funding Branch for the implementation of the work.

St Brigid's– Cynllyn Hygyrchedd / Accessibility Plan

GENERAL STRATEGIES

	Targedau Targets	Strategaethau Strategies	Canlyniad Outcome	Amseriad Timeframe	Cyflawniad Nod Goals Achieved	Cost Cost
	1. Access to Information	The school will use all the expertise of the various agencies to produce the material and will publish a statement in its prospectus which outlines the service available	If needed the school can provide written information in alternative formats	Ongoing	Written information provided in alternative formats if requested.	On-going
	2 Plan to audit school policies to ensure that there are no discriminatory policies, phrases and practices	The school will ensure that all policies are DDA compliant where possible.	Policies are audited on a regular basis to ensure compliance	Yearly	Written information and school policies are free of disability discrimination in terms of policies, phrases and practices. A full Strategic Equality Plan has been developed and implemented, it is reviewed every two years.	

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	<p>3 In refurbishment programmes plan to improve the physical access to the building in all locations which are permanent accommodation by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ensuring level access to ensure it is flush; b) Ensuring doors and door furniture are to DDA compliant; c) Ensure appropriate signage 	Following the audit by the LEA , and the planned use of LEA and school resources	All entrances to the school improved & more accessible to pupils, parents and carers as well as visitors with impairments	Ongoing	Physical accessibility of the school is improved	LA/School
	4 In refurbishment programmes add appropriate colour contrast to handrails and ironmongery	Following the audit of the school premises by the LA, planned use of resources.	More accessible to pupils and visitors with visual impairment	<u>Ongoing</u>	Audit carried out by Conwy Sensory Service for new sight impaired pupil. All classrooms used have been adapted as per the audit.	LA/ School
	5 Train staff in disability issues.	Use LA advisory staff to train ALNCO's, arrange training and cascade training in-house	All staff more able to meet the needs of the disabled to access the curriculum.	Ongoing	Increase in access to the National Curriculum for pupils.	School

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	6 In refurbishment programmes, tackle the necessary works identified in external H & S Audits and internal H&S Tours	Prioritise items identified where there is an actual need to accommodate pupils	Improved facilities	Ongoing	Pupils accommodated in line with DDA regulations	By demand/ LA
	7 Approach to site and parking, with separation for pupils. Plan for additional parking in the field across road from main school gate.	Study undertaken by LA and Planning consultant	Improved and increased parking arrangements and designated disabled parking bays	Car park marking reviewed annually.	Better circulation and parking layout with safer access for pupils and additional disabled parking spaces	LA
	8 Improve road crossing to playing field	Barriers recommended, and changes to bus set-down points.	Footpaths needed to avoid pupils walking along A543. The 51S Double Decker Arriva Rhyl service re-routed to drop pupils inside school grounds. Instead of on the main road.	Ongoing	Safer access for pupils Maximum Speed limit on A543 passing the school front gates has been legally reduced from 60 mph to 30mph. Also an electronic matrix road sign has been installed. This gives warning to drivers of the speed limit.	LA

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	9 Horizontal Movement and Assembly. Consider alterations to floor finishes and wall finishes to aid movement	Consider during ongoing maintenance opportunities for redecorating/furbishing	Improved visual appearance as needed	Medium Term	Updated painting for sight impaired pupil – recommendations met	LA
	10 Internal level change	Add, modify or replace handrails to comply with Part M of Building Regulations Ensure tread edges are highlighted		Medium Term Immediate	Completed 04/16	Delegated Budget
	11 Internal doors	Ensure every door complies with DDA Ensure regular maintenance of fittings.	Proper provision and ease of use	Short Term	DDA compliant electronic exit/entry doors fitted to Science block and Library. Ramp conforming to Part M of the Building Regulations installed adjacent to Library door.	Delegated Budget
	12. Provide access to toilets for all	Ensure compliance with DDA Regulations.	Pleasant useable spaces. Satisfactory in number.	Medium term	Specially adapted toilet cabin installed, with ramped access for wheelchair users. Gender neutral.	LA
	13 Lighting to all areas	Keep abreast of current requirements	Better working environment	Ongoing	All areas DDA Compliant where possible	

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	14 Kitchens to be fully accessible	Limited alterations to be made if needed	Satisfactory working environment. Major upgrade April 2012.	Long Term		Capital Programme
	15 Means of escape Upgrade all Means of Escape Upgrade Fire Alarm System / Visual warnings Emergency/Escape Lighting	Ensure MOE from all areas complies with Part M 2004 Fire Alarms being unified	All exits are safe in case of fire	Short Term	Comply with Building Bulletin 100 & Building Regulations Unified and monitored Fire Alarm System fitted conforming to BS 5839 Pt 1 - L2 system. 52 new fire doors conforming to BS 476 installed to improve compartmentation of building and Means of Escape. Additional Escape lighting installed in specific areas to improve illumination on Means of Escape.	Capital Programme LA
	16 Mobile Classrooms Modify/ refurbish as and when necessary, and when economically viable	Maintain access steps/ ramps, Replace doors with panels Provide ramps External Lighting to entrance and ramps		Medium Term	Mobiles maintained for future use until replaced. An in house programme of regular maintenance introduced to ensure standard achieved is maintained.	Capital Programme

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	Medium Term Plans					
	17 Disabled WC Provision Girls Disabled WC	When a specific need is identified create an accessible WC Improve facilities to be DDA compliant	Comply with DDA	As required Summer 2015	Fully DDA compliant	£15,000 DCC provision £1000
	18 Improve ramped access and egress to mobiles	Agree a programme of replacement or provision of ramps to mobiles	As above	Ongoing	As above	DDA Budget
	19 Review door widths/ access arrangements when required	Meet specific needs	As above	Ongoing	As above	DDA Budget