



St Thomas à Becket Primary School

Roots to grow, wings to fly.

"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing is impossible for you."
Matthew 17:20



Friendship | Respect | Truth | Forgiveness | Thankfulness | Perseverance

You only have one life, one childhood, one opportunity. School is one of the most important experiences you will ever have. At St Thomas à Becket we will stop at nothing to ensure that you are given every chance to succeed. Through our faith and wisdom, we will give you strong roots to grow into resilient, respectful and ambitious citizens. We will open doors so that you can imagine endless possibilities and a life without limits. We will give you wings to fly.

Accessibility Plan

Statutory	
Policy agreed	December 2025
Policy published	December 2025
Reviewed on	September 2026
Next review date	September 2027
Approved by	FGB
Linked documents	Online Safety Policy Staff Behaviour Policy Use of Artificial Intelligence Policy

Introduction

This Accessibility Plan is prepared in accordance with the **Equality Act 2010**, which replaced the Disability Discrimination Act (1995), and reflects the requirements of the **SEND Code of Practice (2015)**.

At St Thomas à Becket School, we are committed to being a *beacon of inclusion*, where every child is supported to develop strong foundations and flourish—living out our vision of “*Roots to grow, wings to fly*.” We strive to ensure that all pupils, regardless of need or disability, can access a high-quality education and fully participate in school life.

Currently:

- Routes to the main entrance include a tarmac road, with the final section of approximately 15 metres along a tarmac path.
- Most classrooms are located on the ground floor, supporting ease of access, with one additional study area on the first floor.
- The Kestrel classroom, situated on the ground floor, is accessible to wheelchair users.
- A dedicated accessible toilet has been available since December 2008.

We work closely with pupils, families, and external professionals to understand individual needs and make reasonable adjustments wherever possible, ensuring that all members of our community feel welcomed, supported, and valued.

Definition of Disability

The school adopts the definition set out in the **Equality Act 2010**:

A person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

We recognise that disabilities may be **visible or non-visible**, and that barriers to learning and participation are not always immediately apparent. We are committed to developing a culture of awareness, understanding, and responsiveness so that every individual feels recognised and supported.

Key Objective

Our key objective is to proactively reduce and, wherever possible, eliminate barriers to access and participation.

We aim to ensure that **all pupils, staff, and visitors** can fully engage in:

- the curriculum
- the wider life of the school
- enrichment opportunities and community activities

Through an inclusive and aspirational approach, we seek to create an environment where every child develops resilience, confidence, and independence—enabling them to thrive and reach their full potential.

Principles

St Thomas à Becket School is committed to promoting equality, inclusion, and accessibility for all. This commitment underpins our policies, practice, and daily interactions.

In line with the **Equality Act 2010**, the school will:

- Ensure that disabled pupils are not discriminated against in admissions, exclusions, or provision
- Promote equality of opportunity and foster positive attitudes towards difference
- Make reasonable adjustments, including the provision of auxiliary aids and services
- Regularly review and develop this Accessibility Plan

Governors and staff will have regard to the **SEND Code of Practice (2015)** and other relevant statutory guidance.

We will:

- Work in partnership with parents and carers, valuing their knowledge and respecting confidentiality
- Provide a broad, balanced, and inclusive curriculum tailored to diverse needs and learning styles
- Embed inclusive teaching practices by:
 - Setting appropriate and ambitious learning challenges
 - Responding to pupils' diverse needs
 - Identifying and removing barriers to learning and assessment

Through these principles, we aim to nurture a school community where every pupil feels a strong sense of belonging—firmly rooted and ready to flourish.

Key Areas for Development and Action

We are committed to continuous improvement in accessibility across three key areas:

1. Access to the Curriculum

- Ensure the curriculum is inclusive, ambitious, and appropriately adapted
- Provide ongoing, high-quality staff training in inclusive practice and SEND
- Seek and act upon advice from Local Authority services, specialist teachers, SEND advisors, and health professionals

2. Physical Environment

We will continue to improve the accessibility of our school environment by:

- Considering the needs of pupils, staff, and visitors with physical and sensory needs in all developments
- Enhancing access to buildings and outdoor spaces where possible
- Incorporating inclusive design features such as appropriate lighting, acoustics, colour contrast, and accessible fittings

Our aim is to create a safe, enabling environment that promotes independence, dignity, and wellbeing.

3. Access to Information

We recognise that accessible communication is key to inclusion:

- Information will be made available in a range of formats, as required
- We will work with Local Authority services and partners to provide adapted materials (e.g. large print, audio, or other formats)
- We will ensure communication is clear, inclusive, and responsive to individual needs

Linked Policies and Strategic Alignment

This Accessibility Plan supports and is informed by the school's wider strategic framework, including:

- School Development Plan
- SEND Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives
- Teaching and Learning Policy

Our Commitment

At St Thomas à Becket School, inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to removing barriers, celebrating diversity, and ensuring that every member of our community is able to succeed.

Guided by our vision—*“Roots to grow, wings to fly”*—we strive to create an environment where every child is grounded in belonging and empowered to achieve their fullest potential.