

# Accessibility at St. Bernadette's School

At St. Bernadette School, we believe that accessibility is an important part of creating a welcoming and inclusive community. By removing barriers and considering the diverse needs of our students, staff, families, and community members, we can create an environment where everyone feels supported, included, and able to participate fully.

## Accessible B.C. Act

The Accessible British Columbia Regulation, under the Accessible British Columbia Act, came into force on September 1, 2022. The goal of the act is to improve opportunities for people with disabilities and involve them in identifying, removing, and preventing barriers to their full participation in the life of the province.

[Legislation – Accessible BC Act](#)

[Regulation Accessible BC Act](#)

[Accessibility Legislation Plain Language Summary](#)

## Important Definitions from the Accessible B.C. Act

1. **Disability:** An inability to participate fully and equally in society as a result of the interaction of an impairment and a barrier.
2. **Barrier:** Anything that hinders the full and equal participation in society of a person with an impairment.
3. **Impairment:** A physical, sensory, mental, intellectual, or cognitive impairment, which is permanent, temporary, or episodic.

## Implementation of the Accessible BC Regulation

1. **Accessibility Committee:** The Catholic Independent Schools Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) began the process of establishing an accessibility committee in June 2023. The committee is currently made up of 4 individuals and was registered in October 2023. The committee, in consultation with CISVA schools, developed an accessibility plan for CISVA Schools. Individual schools will also provide unique feedback into the plan.

2. **Accessibility Plan:** The St. Catherine's School Accessibility Plan outlines our commitment to accessibility and the actions in our Three-Year Accessibility Plan for 2026-27.

Follow this link for our [School Plan](#).

Feedback about the Accessibility Plan may be made by completing the [Accessibility Plan Feedback form](#).

3. We have developed a form to provide input about individual accessibility accomplishments and barriers at our school. The feedback is reviewed throughout the year and is taken into consideration for future versions of the plan.

[Report an Accessibility Accomplishment or Barrier](#)

[Accessibility Survey](#)

4. Please use this [Accessibility Committee Members Form](#), for individuals who may want to serve on the CISCA Accessibility Committee.