

Accessibility Considerations

This quick reference list is designed to help you consider the accessibility of your space. It is not a full access audit or a comprehensive checklist, but a set of practical prompts to guide your thinking about how people might experience your site.

Not every point will apply to your space – there's no such thing as a 'fully accessible' site. The aim is to help you explore your space, notice where barriers might exist and identify the information visitors need before arriving to make informed choices and to plan their visit with confidence.

For more detailed support on providing clear pre-visit information, visit Stop 4 of this hub. You may also want to arrange an Access Audit with a local provider, which will give you a thorough evaluation of your site informed by diverse lived experience.



Physical and Environmental

- Are accessible toilets and Changing Places facilities provided?
- Are there designated accessible car parking bays and convenient drop-off zones?
- Is wayfinding clear and consistent?
- Are paths and routes step-free and wide enough to allow two wheelchair users to pass each other safely? If not, are there passing places?
- Are path surfaces firm, flat and smooth?
- Are gradients manageable and are ramps provided where needed? Are steps and ramps safe with handrails where required?
- Are gates, stiles or barriers replaced with accessible gates or gaps?
- Are viewing points accessible with appropriate viewing heights?
- Are seating or rest areas available at regular intervals along routes?
- Is there shelter or shade in key locations?
- Is there a firm and level surfacing leading to and around any picnic areas? Is there space for more than one wheelchair user to position at the picnic tables?
- How long are any trails or paths?

Sensory

- Does your space get busy, bright or noisy?
- Are sensory-friendly respite spaces available (for example, quiet areas with low lighting)?
- Are routes free from unexpected hazards or clutter?
- Is signage easy to read with clear font and good visual contrast?
- Are hearing loop systems available?
- Are there any guided tours available of your site?

Information and Communication

- Is pre-visit accessibility information available online and in print? Is it easy to find on your website? Are alternative formats offered (Easy Read, large print, braille, audio, BSL)?
- Is visitor information clear, jargon free and easy to understand? Have you communicated all possible information so visitors can 'know before they go'?
- Are maps, signs and interpretation clear? Are symbols, pictograms and alternative communication formats used consistently?

Attitudinal & Cultural and Psychological & Emotional

- Are staff and volunteers trained in disability awareness and inclusive practice?
- Are activities and events designed to include diverse needs and interests?
- Are disabled people represented in planning and decision making?
- Are Equality Impact Assessments carried out for projects and events?
- Is the environment welcoming, with staff offering support without assumptions?
- Are mobility aids or adaptive equipment available for hire?

