



ACCESS STATEMENT

Updated August 2019

Kennington Youth Club recognises its duty to provide where reasonably practicable an accessible building for all users no matter their abilities. In certain circumstances, due to the nature it may not be possible to meet all needs, but the Management Committee aims in so far as is possible to adapt as best as possible its facilities for members and hirers comfort.

DEFINITION OF DISABILITY

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 states that a disabled person is a person who has '...a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'.

The broader definition of disability includes those people with physical, sensory, mental health and learning difficulties and also includes cancer, facial disfigurements, incontinence, co-ordination, the ability to lift, carry or otherwise move everyday objects, speech, memory, ability to concentrate, learn or understand, perception of the risk of physical danger, epilepsy and those with multiple disabilities. Simply providing improved physical access does not address the broader needs of all disabled people.

SUMMARY

Kennington Youth Club has existed since circa World War Two. The premises has altered greatly since then with the demolition and construction of a variety of internal and external walls, altering our footprint to its current state.

Kennington Youth Club undertook a detailed Access Audit in April 2019, reviewed regularly, and is continually seeking funding in order to improve its facilities. Provided within this document is an overview of the Access Audit for users of the premises.

The full Access Audit took into account the needs of people with mobility impairments and sensory impairments. The audit identifies physical barriers to access against pre-determined criteria, and is treated as the starting point of an ongoing access plan, constantly updated by the committee. This audit should only be seen as a snapshot of the position at the time of the report.

AUDIT INTRODUCTION

The Access Audit of Kennington Youth Club's premises was carried out by Roy Peach, Youth Leader, on 20 April 2019. The weather at the time of the survey was dry.

Kennington Youth Club occupies a site behind Kennington Village Centre, Kennington Road, Oxford. The premises is single storey comprising of an entrance lobby, main hall, youth club office (inaccessible to the public), toilets (one inaccessible to those with disabilities, one with access), store room (inaccessible to the public), café and kitchen, and back room.

There are many possible activities and sports in which disabled people may wish to participate on the premises including but not limited to the Youth Club, Table Tennis, and Kung Fu. On occasions regular private hirers such as Kennington Amateur Dramatic Society (KADS) use the premises.



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External / Parking / Travel

- There is a free public car park adjacent to the building. At busy times, this can become full as it serves several buildings in the area.
- The car park is not clearly signed from the road but is accessed between the playground and medical centre.
- The car park's surface is tarmac and is sloped on a steep gradient.
- There is a designated disabled parking bay but not specifically for the club. This space is approximately 35 metres from the building and there is no designated setting down space directly outside the building, although it is possible to set down at quieter times.
- At night, the car park is well lit.
- The nearest bust stop is approximately 325 metres away on Kennington Road.

Access to Premises

- All private hirers unless agreed otherwise will require a member of the bookings team/management committee to open and lock up for them. A key is not normally provided.
- Four steps lead to the main door which is at sub-level to the car park.
- A permanent ramp is in place to the left of the main door (requires doubling back but the turning circle is sufficient for standard wheelchairs with pedestrian/carer behind).

Main Entrance

- The main entrance door is manual and opens outwards with sufficient clearance on both sides.
- There is a small threshold strip to navigate and inside the main door is a firm doormat on the same level.
- A vision panel exists in the return door at the main entrance.
- The entrance lobby is big enough for a wheelchair and seating is also provided.

Navigation / Circulation

- Site map is provided on the website and inside the building.
- The floor is level throughout.
- All doors are manual and a minimum of 750mm width (inclusive of double doors).
- Floors and walls contrast in colour.

Kitchen / Cafe

- The worktops are at a height where wheelchair users may have some difficulty.

Toilets

- Two unisex toilets are provided, one with grab rails. No key is required.
- The toilet door on the disabled toilet opens inwards and locks with a twist lock.