

LUMEN CHRISTI COLLEGE
ACCESSIBILITY PLAN for DISABLED PUPILS
2017-2019

Increasing Participation of Disabled Pupils

Lumen Christi College is a co-educational grammar school open to all pupils according to scores attained through the college's Entrance Assessment. Pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability may apply to the college for consideration under special circumstances arrangements for admission to Year 8 and Special Access and Special Circumstances policies relating to admission are available on the school website www.lumenchristicollege.co.uk

The Board of Governors considers all such applications at the transfer stage. Any subsequent applications will be considered at the request of EA in the course of governors' meetings but are subject to the statutory requirements of the Department of Education. Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Need may apply through EA.

The Accessibility Plan seeks to meet the requirements of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (NI) Order 2005 and the Equality Commission's Code of Practice for schools. Actions planned are in line with recommendations made by Disability Action who surveyed school provision and their report (2006) forms the basis of longer term revision of the school's Accessibility Plan.

School environment

Ramp or direct access to the building is available at ground floor level with appropriate signage indicating entrances.

Disabled toilet and changing facilities exist in the school at both ground and first floor level.

Disabled/ wheelchair bound pupils have direct access to all ground floor areas of the school and access by lift to all other areas other than

- School library
- Language classroom (1)
- Music Recording Studio & RE Classroom(1)

Access to all areas for wheelchair pupils may be gained by use of a stair walker.

- In the event of wheelchair bound students attending the school, application will be made to the relevant bodies, inc. DENI and EA for immediate provision of same, in advance of students entering sixth form.

The college library is a listed building both internally and externally; it is not possible to provide access by lift or stairclimber. Borrowing and research facilities are fully provided through the study centre and the study supervisor will work independently with any student not able to access the library, including provision of on-line access to catalogues. Sixth Form Music software is available within the Music department at first floor level and in the Study. Access to language and RE classrooms on fourth floor will be met by alternative whole class timetabling provision elsewhere in the school.

An inspection of the school was conducted in April 2015 to identify and meet requirements for visually challenged pupils. The report was submitted to DE and fabric and maintenance recommendations were completed.

Planning targets for 2017-19 will ensure that

- Training for wheelchair bound pupils and accompanying staff is updated regarding emergency evacuation procedures
- Implementation of on-line i-pad technology will help reduce the need for movement across storeys for disabled pupils
- An updated, independent audit of provision conducted of accessibility provision by the end of April 2019

Accessibility of the curriculum

- There are no areas of the curriculum from which disabled or special needs pupils have been excluded. Special provision for changing facilities and shower arrangements are in existence for Physical Education for disabled pupils. The SENCO or assistant SENCO meets with parents who have identified special educational needs in order to ensure adequate access to all subject areas. Any special needs are discussed with the new Year 8 intake and parents at meetings in June of the year prior to their enrolment in the college. E-Learning facilities such as laptop computers or i-pads are provided for students with identified physical, visual or motor problems or specified educational need as appropriate.
- Any additional requirements for disabled pupils, such as furniture, computer provision or fabric will be made to EA according to individual needs and SEN policy prior to accepting any pupil for entry to the school or as ongoing SEN provision identifies same.
- The college is committed to working within the Foyle Learning Community to ensure equality of curricular and organizational access for all students to avail of courses offered on site and in different campuses.

Provision of Information

The Accessibility Policy will be available to all parents on the school website. Parents are encouraged to comment upon and suggest improvements to the provision as part on the ongoing planning process.

Parents who have informed the college of hearing difficulties will be asked in advance of meetings whether they would wish a 'signed' presentation of information at parents evenings or meetings with individual teachers.

The Accessibility Plan will be reviewed biennially by the Board of Governors.