



# Accessibility Statement

## Accessibility Statement

The statement was adopted at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 23 March 2026.

Emmanuel Church (1837) and Centre (1995) aims to serve all users equally in terms of access and accommodations. The public facilities are all on the ground floor, including an accessible WC. People with mobility issues such as wheelchair and walker users have full access to all public areas in the church and centre.

Stewards and wardens are briefed to remove chairs in the main body of the church to provide space for wheelchairs and pushchairs so that emergency access routes are not blocked. Without prior notice, access to the dais of the church would be more difficult for those using mobility aids such as wheelchairs or walkers, although a ramp is available with prior notice. Holy Communion is distributed on the flat level floor, and can be taken to communicants in their seats if required. Access to the dais in the church for people with limited mobility (walking) has the provision of secure handles by the side chapel and to the worship team area. For access to the balcony, handrails have been provided, step edges have been clearly marked and there are level rest areas.

There are printed Bibles in a variety of languages and print size for use by congregants and visitors, situated at the entrance to the church.

Fire exits in the centre lounge are fitted with small ramps to make exit easier for wheelchairs, walkers and pushchairs.

A hearing loop for hearing aid users is fitted in the church and centre. Notice sheets and service sheets are emailed in advance to visually impaired church members who may need to rely on computerised readers. For all church communications we use fonts which are easily read by people with dyslexia or are visually impaired.

A calm space is available for use during services in the crèche room (the crèche now being situated within the main body of the church), where the service can be relayed audibly for those with sensory issues. 'Fidget' bags are available to anyone who needs access to them for sensory or regulation needs.

There are no lifts to the upstairs offices. Meetings with people with limited mobility are held in downstairs rooms, and staff with mobility issues would work in the ground floor offices.

On our website and social media channels, information is fully shown in text so that computerised reader users can access all information. Any images are a repetition of the text, and on the website are shown with alt text. Our Sunday services are livestreamed through YouTube and have subtitle capability (user-enabled through YouTube).

Our hospitality is offered in single-serve sachets with allergens printed on the packaging, and all catering provided has full allergen notices clearly displayed. The catering team endeavour to cater for all dietary needs.

The car park for the church centre and church hall is flat-level and has a tarmac path through the church lawns to the front of the church and centre. There are allocated accessible parking spaces by the church and a turning circle to allow drop off and pick up for people with limited mobility. There

are no steps or uneven paving to cause trip hazards at the front of the church and along the main paths.

The old church hall (1957) has steps from the entrance lobby into the main hall, with ramp access at the side of the building for those who are unable to use stairs. There is no accessible toilet facility in the church hall.

Incumbent ..... *Clifford Preece* .....

Churchwarden ..... *M. R. Alderton* .....

Churchwarden ..... *R. Ash* .....

Date ..... *23/3/26* .....

