The Workhouse and Infirmary Access Statement

The Workhouse, Upton Road, Southwell, Nottinghamshire, NG25 OPT T: 01636 817260 E: thework-buse@nationaltrust.org.uk



Introduction

- 1. The Workhouse is situated on generally flat ground although some surfaces are rough with loose gravel on some parts.
- 2. Slight inclines into some entry points, assistance and ramps are available.
- 3. Mobile phone reception is generally good on most networks apart from the 3 network.
- 4. The number to call in an emergency if visitors have a problem whilst at the property is the main office number 01636 817260 or the reception direct dial on 01636 817266.
- 5. Assistance dogs are welcome inside the buildings. Dogs on leads are allowed onto the front field, kitchen garden and outside café areas only. There is a dog waste bin next to the pedestrian gate into the car park. There are dog water bowls outside visitor reception and outside the café (and on request). We ask that dogs are not left in cars.
- 6. Light levels are low inside the workhouse and sometimes it may be necessary to close early if light levels drop too low.
- 7. Visitors need to hand over large bags to be stored before entering the workhouse. Pushchairs can be used on the ground floor and can be stored in the hub or board room whilst visitors go round the upper floors.
- 8. Stiletto heels are not permitted in the house.
- 9. No food or drink to be consumed in the Workhouse and Infirmary, only in the designated refreshment area.
- 10. Care must be taken not to lean on walls as paint is fragile and flaky.

Arrival & Parking Facilities: Please note we now have a temporary reception portacabin and toilets due to building work taking place in the car park

1. There are brown signs to follow from Southwell town centre and from the A617 between Newark and Mansfield.

- 5. The car park is tarmac with loose gravel on top.
- 6. There are 4 designated spaces for accessible parking in the main car park.
- 7. There are additional accessible parking spaces in a separate car park situated through the delivery entrance gate, off the top of Workhouse Lane. This car park is locked. Visitors must report to reception in the main car park who will then radio up for access. A member of staff will then open the gates. These accessible spaces are 16m from the entrance to the hub and 66m from the entrance to the Infirmary. Please report to the hub when leaving the site to have the gate opened.
- 8. There is an overflow car park (access from the main car park) on the front field, with a reinforced grass surface. This is not open all year round due to waterlogging issues.
- 9. There are wheelchairs at visitor reception (based in the car park) which can be used for the journey to, or to use in the Workhouse.
- 10. The route up to the Workhouse is now up the field on a tarmac path and through the kitchen garden, which includes gravelled paths. This is approx 225m.

Temporary Visitor Reception

- 1. The visitor reception area is a portacabin. It has a sloped, ramped access to enter and a step to exit.
- 2. Staff can come round the desk to serve visitors and clipboards are also available to assist with writing. The area is well lit with natural light and strip lighting.
- 3. Two easy chairs are available in the visitor reception area.
- 4. There is an induction loop available at the reception desk.
- 5. Writing materials can be provided upon request to facilitate communication.
- 6. Visitors may not be able to use wide mobility scooters in the workhouse but can be provided with manual wheelchairs. There is one manual wheelchair available in visitor reception and 2 wheelchairs available in the hub. Staff can have these ready in advance if requested.
- 7. There are portacabin toilets in the main car park. These are accessed by a sloped ramp. There is one accessible toilet. It is well lit with artificial spot lighting.
- 8. There is a baby change facility in the accessible toilet.
- 9. There are separate male and female toilets. All the toilets have automatic hand driers





The Workhouse







- 1. The hub (entrance to the workhouse) is 195m from visitor reception, with a resting place at 97m.
- 2. The main paths are asphalt and even, suitable for all access. The garden paths are gravel and therefore may prove difficult to traverse for some.
- 3. Entrance to the workhouse is via the hub which has a slight upward incline towards the doorway with a gravel surface. The hub is artificially lit with a lino flooring. There is an induction loop on the desk.
- 4. In the hub are the digital readers for visitors to use to access more information across the site. These provide both text and pictures. There are 2 larger digital labels available with larger screen/font size.
- 5. In the hub is a braille guide and guides in German, French and Spanish.
- 6. The ground floor to the workhouse building is fully accessible via folding ramps. There are steep steps up to the upper floors and down into the cellars. The widest staircase can be found in the centre of the building for those who cannot manage the steep steps.
- 7. The entrance door is 80cm wide.
- 8. Some of the rooms (top floor) are sparsely furnished and therefore sound echoes.
- 9. The workhouse is predominantly lit with natural light, there is artificial light on stairwells. This means light levels are low during the winter seasons.
- 10. All stairs have handrails; the wider stairs are in the middle of the building.
- 11. There are narrow corridors and doorways on each floor but no less than 75cm. There is one doorway less than 75cm on top floor but there is an alternative route.
- 12. Each room has space to turn a wheelchair.
- 13. Each room contains seats for visitors, only some have arm rests.
- 14. There are volunteers stationed in many rooms.
- 15. Visitors may not be able to use wide mobility scooters or wide powered wheelchairs in the workhouse but can be provided with manual wheelchairs. There are 2 manual wheelchairs available in visitor reception and 2 wheelchairs available at the hub. Staff can have these ready in advance if requested. There is also a wheelchair available on the first floor of the workhouse building.

- 17. There is also a sensory basket in the reflection space which includes a weighted lap blanket, a weighted shoulder blanket, ear defenders (these are adjustable so suitable for both children and adults) and a range of sensory toys.
- 18. If visitors do not want to undertake the full route they can sit in the reflection space. There is a 360 degree tour available here on a tablet where visitors can virtually walk through the cellars and upper floors. There is also a photograph album available and print outs of the all the digital label spots.







Firbeck Infirmary

Catering

- 1. Firbeck café is 370m from the main car park, 66m from the accessible spaces in the top car park and 80m from the workhouse exit. From the workhouse there is a gravelled area to cross, followed by a stone path. This is on a slight incline and has an uneven surface.
- 2. The café is fully accessible through the main door. The door is 90cm wide with a manual inward opening.
- 3. The café room has laminate flooring with wooden chairs and tables.
- 4. The area is well lit with natural light and spot lighting.
- 5. The counter height is 93cm high.
- 6. Staff will assist visitors as required, visitors can be seated if they experience difficulty queuing and staff will then assist them.
- 7. There is circulation space between the tables of around 1200mm and staff can assist with creating space for wheelchair users, tables are 72cm high.
- 8. Till points have induction loops.
- 9. Staff can assist with menus and price information.
- 10. Large mugs, two handled bowls, assisted cutlery and straws are available upon request.
- 11. There is an outdoor seating area on a grassed area outside the cafe. There are two accessible benches.

The Historic Infirmary

- 1. The Entrance to the Infirmary is via a stone path which has an upward incline and a slightly uneven surface.
- 2. The historic infirmary wards are situated on the first floor. The stairs are lit with artificial lighting. There is a platform lift with a 90cm door opening outwards.
- 3. The door leading out of the first-floor lift lobby is 72cm. There are two large wards followed by a corridor with smaller rooms. This corridor is narrow with small rooms on the left-hand side. The doorway to the corridor is 72cm. The smallest door on the corridor is 70cm.
- 4. The floors are lino covered except for one ward which has the original wooden floor exposed.
- 5. In the first two wards there is ample space for a wheelchair to turn. There are chairs in both wards.
- 6. There is a wheelchair available to use on the first floor.







Garden

- 1. The garden is a simple design and layout with wide gravel paths in between bed and asphalt paths around the main route. The whole garden is even with no steps.
- 2. There are written garden boards in the garden.
- 3. There are resting points at each gate and benches in the garden and on the field. There is one accessible table on the field and other picnic tables and benches.



Accessible Toilets

- 1. There is one accessible toilet in visitor reception, one accessible toilet through the hub before entering the Workhouse and one accessible toilet in the Infirmary.
- 2. The accessible toilet at visitor reception is 1.80m x 2.20m and the door is 94cm wide. The accessible toilet in the hub is 1.85m x 2.05m and the door is 94cm wide. The toilets themselves are 48cm high and sinks are 75cm high. The accessible toilet in the Infirmary is 1.98m x 2.06m and the door is 90cm wide. The toilet is 44.2cm high and the sink is 72.5cm high.
- 3. All three accessible toilets are a right-hand transfer with a supporting rail on the left-hand side.
- 4. There is baby change facility in both the reception and Infirmary accessible toilets.
- 5. All the accessible toilets are well lit with natural light and artificial spot lighting.
- 6. All the toilets, including the accessible toilets, have automatic hand driers.

Contact details for more information T: 01636 817260 E: theworkhouse@nationaltrust.org.uk