

Beckfoot Allerton School - Accessibility Action Plan

Updated: 07/11/2025

Costs key: N=None, M=Minimal, OG=Ongoing, ST=Structural change, EX=Major structural change

	Work completed
	In progress
	Not yet progressed

Priority A

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
2.4	The parking spaces are located on the opposite side of the road to the main entrance. There is no crossing point directly to the school entrance.	Accessible routes should be direct and obstruction-free and no less than 1200mm wide. A suitable level crossing point such as a Zebra or Pelican crossing should be provided to the school entrance with dropped kerbs and tactile paving where required. BS8300 recommends that to be accessible, the minimum surface width of an access route (i.e. between walls, kerbs or path edgings) should be at least 1800 mm for general routes although a width of 2000 mm is preferable to accommodate larger electric mobility scooters.	M	
2.5	The parking spaces are located on the opposite side of the road to the main entrance. There is no crossing point directly to the school entrance.	Provide an accessible parking spaces in an area which provides level access to the accessible/ main entrance, or provide a suitable access route from the current location - refer to 2.4. BS8300 recommends that designated accessible parking spaces in uncovered parking areas should be located on firm and level ground, as close as is feasible to the accessible entrance to the building. The route should either be level along its length or should be gently sloping or incorporate a ramp or ramps, with the lowest practicable gradient within the range 1:20 to 1:12 and the maximum corresponding length between landings. Refer to BS8300 for further details.	M	

Priority B

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
1.9	Entrance gates throughout the school grounds do not suitably colour contrast and there is no contrast to the controls to aid people with impaired vision. Intercoms provide some contrast but do not have tactile or contrasting controls. Some accessible features were provided by an LCD screen.	ADM vol-2 requires that controls or switches requiring precise hand movements are located between 750-1200mm above the floor. BS8300 recommends that all switches and controls that require precise hand movement/dexterity are in a zone 750 mm to 1000 mm from the floor so that wheelchair users and people standing can operate them. Entryphone systems should be sited for approach and use by all users, including wheelchair users, and should contain a light emitting diode (LED) display to enable people who are Deaf and hard of hearing to use them. The means of indicating that the call is acknowledged and that the lock has been released (if permitted) should be both audible and visible. The entryphone system should contrast visually with the background against which it is seen. The information associated with the controls should be embossed to aid tactile reading. Fencing and guardrails should contrast visually with the background against which they will be seen, under a variety of lighting conditions.	M	
2.6	Car park is not large but is some distance from the main entrance. There are no safety marked out walking routes within the car park potentially putting people at risk, particularly those with hearing impairments who may not hear a car reversing out of its space.	Consider marking out 1200mm wide hatched pedestrian routes within the car parks complete with signage warning of pedestrians. Also recommend providing a maximum speed limit of 5 mph within the car parks	M	
13.7	WC 57 was missing the horizontal and drop down grab rails to the right of the WC pan. Some are located near to the shower and obstructed by the shower curtain and don't seem part of the WC fittings. Grab rails did contrast however. WC 37 is not currently used as an accessible WC, being used as the girls changing area for the Nursery. It still has the signage however. it does not have the required grab rails if it were to be used as an accessible WC in future.	A full BS8300 compliant set of grab rails should be provided where required, appropriate to the layout of the WC provided. Refer to the images below for locations of the required grab rails. Ensure any installed fixtures and fittings contrast from the surrounding surfaces.	M/OG	

Priority C

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
1.2	There is no tactile paving provided to some of the possible crossing points on approach to the site to aid people with impaired vision. There is no crossing point provided from the carpark to the school entrance.	Depending on the responsible authority (i.e. Bradford Council), contact the Highways Department responsible for the routes on approach to the site, and request to provide tactile paving in areas where there are dropped kerbs to aid people with impaired vision. ADM states that an uncontrolled crossing point across the vehicular route should be identified by a buff coloured blister surface. Any tactile paving a must be installed correctly and in accordance with Guidance on the use of Tactile Paving Surfaces 2021, See: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1046126/guidance-on-the-use-of-tactile-paving-surfaces.pdf	N	
1.5	There is a lack of on street signage on approach to the site but the school is visible from the road on approach.	Signage should be refreshed to provide clear and easily identifiable navigation of the routes leading to the main entrances. Directional signs should specifically identify routes that are accessible and step-free, and should give as much information as possible to assist people in planning and navigating their route, including distances and gradients where appropriate. BS8300 recommends that orientation and way-finding should be planned to ensure that the arrangement of any building and its entrances on a site enable people to navigate and orientate themselves easily. The ease of orientation in and way-finding through an area is determined by its inherent legibility supported by information systems and signage. Way-finding should use spatial, physical and environmental clues to help people plan and navigate moving from one place to another. Appropriate way-finding clues should be incorporated which could include, but are not limited to: graphic communication, for example: • signs, information, maps and directories; tactile communication, for example: • embossed signage, Braille signage, tactile paving, changes in level and kerb upstands, tapping rails;	M	
	On approach to the site, the light posts and traffic posts do not feature contrast markings at two heights in accordance to BS8300.	Site management should contact the Highways Department of the relevant authority (i.e. Bradford Council). Well contrasted markings should be provided at two heights to the posts/columns. ☐ Refer to BS8300 - Each free-standing post, e.g. a lighting column, within an access route should contrast visually with the background against which it is seen (it is desirable also to incorporate a band, 150 mm high, whose bottom edge is 1 500 mm above ground level, and which contrasts visually with the remainder of the column or post	N	

1.8	There is a lack of seating with armrests within areas that parents pick up and drop off their children. Playgrounds areas offered some seating but none with armrest.	Contact the relevant authorities and ask them to provide some seating within the access route to the entrance from bus stops, car parks etc. which has armrests to aid ambulant disabled people. BS8300 recommends that access routes on level ground should have resting places not more than 50 m apart for people with limited mobility. Ensure all seating is well contrasted against the background upon which they are seen and a choice of seating options should be provided suitable for a variety of users. Appropriate accessible space should be allowed for wheelchair users to be integrated within the general seating provision. Also refer to recommendations for 14.1 and 14.2.	M/N	
3.1	The older ramps seen do not have colour contrast to the surface to indicate the presence of a gradient. Some are also steeper than recommended. Newer ramps had contrasted surfaces and tactile paving provided. Ramp at Main Entrance - not used as obstructed by flowerpots at top? Gradient 10 degrees/ 1:5.671 Entrance area 8 Gradient 1degree/ 1:57.29 Entrance area 59 gradient shallow Entrance area 113 gradient 3 degrees/ 1:19.08 Entrance area 56 gradients 5, 7 degrees/ 1:19.08, 1:8.144 Entrance to Nursery area 32 gradient 9 degrees / 1:6.314	ADM require ramp gradients to be within 1:20 - 1:12. Dependent on heritage requirements, surfaces need to be slip-resistant especially when wet and of a colour that contrasts visually with that of the landings. Some of the current access route ramps are of a gradient steeper than that deemed reasonable under ADM. Where possible, during any future works, the gradients of these primary access routes should be reduced to provide an ADM compliant ramp gradient as below:	M/ST	
4.1	The following external steps do not feature tactile paving to assist people with impaired vision. Main Entrance Steps Entrance area 56 MUPA The following External steps do feature tactile paving to assist people with impaired vision: Entrance area 8 Entrance area 59 Entrance area 113 top only	Tactile paving is an important hazard indicator for blind and partially sighted people and is expected to be present. Implement a rolling programme to install tactile hazard warning paving to the top and bottom of steps where two or more steps are present. Steps serving communal facilities and access routes used by disabled people should be prioritised with others included as part of any refurbishment or alteration works in future. ADM vol-2 requires a corduroy hazard warning surface provided at the top and bottom of each flight of 800mm x 1200mm minimum, 400mm from the step. BS8300 - To give advance warning of a step, tactile paving with a corduroy hazard warning surface should be provided at the top and bottom of each flight, excluding intermediate landings with continuous handrails. Where the approach to the stair is wider than the flight, the tactile surface should extend beyond the line of each edge of the flight.	M/ST	

6.3	The reception does have a lowered section to accommodate wheelchair users or people of short stature. The sign in screen is located just over an accessible height at 1264mm from floor level. It can be rotated but not easily lowered.	Relocate or adjust the sign in screen to a suitable height for all users. ADM vol-2 requires that controls or switches requiring precise hand movements are located between 750-1200mm above the floor. BS8300 recommends that all switches and controls that require precise hand movement/dexterity are in a zone 750 mm to 1000 mm from the floor so that wheelchair users and people standing can operate them.	M/OG	
8.7	There is a mixture of keypads used on site and are positioned too high off the ground floor level for wheelchair users. Many people with dexterity impairments can find these difficult to use. Keyfob heights, from floor level 1254mm Door exit buttons, from floor level 1385mm 1400mm	ADM vol-2 requires that controls or switches requiring precise hand movements are located between 750-1200mm above the floor. BS8300 recommends that all switches and controls that require precise hand movement/dexterity are in a zone 750 mm to 1000 mm from the floor so that wheelchair users and people standing can operate them. Activation points for electronic door entry systems should be located on the latch edge of the door (on the door face or the adjacent wall) with the activation point positioned within 200 mm of the door frame. Swipe-card and insertion-type systems, which require more precise hand control, should be orientated vertically, within a height range of 900 mm to 1 000 mm. They controls should not require the simultaneous use of two hands, and should contrast visually with the background with embossed information to aid tactile reading.	M/OG	
10.3	All stairs had handrails on both sides except for the stair from area 2 to area 22 - which is inaccessible to a wheelchair user. This stair is narrow at 863mm. By area 2 to KS1 library and upper floor meeting rooms. Treads 255mm deep Risers 189mm high Width 863mm	BS8300 compliant handrails should be provided on each side of a stair flight throughout its length and landings where not obstructing any adjoining access routes. The top surface of the handrail should be between 900 - 1000mm from the pitch line of a stair and between 900 -1100 mm from the landing. Handrails should have an oval profile with dimensions of 50mm wide and 39mm deep and rounded edges with a radius of at least 15 mm. Circular handrails should have a diameter of 32 - 50mm. They should have a clearance of 50 - 75mm from the wall surface, and 50mm between a cranked support and the underside of the handrails. Handrails should visually contrast from their surroundings and include a 300 mm long section in the horizontal plane beyond the start and finish of the ramp.	M	

12.1	Most WC areas were a suitable size. Staff WCs within area 75 which is completely inaccessible to a wheelchair user has a lobby of a small size and heavy doors. Staff WC mens 75 door heavy Lobby small at 1237 x 1233mm Staff First Floor area Children's areas 8 and both by 151 Children's 59, 170, 171 red and grey - same layout. Dining area WC doors (x3) narrow at 598mm. Sinks no lever taps. Children's area 161, 67 EYFS children's WCs EYFS staff WC Nursery children's WC	A lobby consisting of inner and outer doors may be used: a) in an airlock arrangement; and/or b) to assist entry control of strangers when people are entering or leaving a building. The dimensions and shape of a lobby should allow a wheelchair user to be able to move clear of one door swing to push open the next door or reverse their wheelchair to pull it open, and for someone helping a wheelchair user. Lobbies with single leaf doors should be avoided wherever possible. If used, the minimum dimensions of such lobbies should be as shown below. Lobby doors should have vision panels. Where double doors are used for a lobby, the length of the lobby should be at least the projection of the door or doors, if swinging into the lobby, plus 1 570 mm. Double swing doors with vision panels are preferable because they are easier to negotiate in both directions. ADM vol-2 requires and BS8300 recommends that for doors the opening force, when measured at the leading edge of the door, should be not more than 30 N from 0° (the door in the closed position) to 30° open, and not more than 22.5 N from 30° to 60° of the opening cycle. Implement maintenance to de-tense and recalibrate the hinges. Ensure doors can be opened with less than 30 Newtons of force. If the force required for opening doors is greater than wheelchair users and people with limited strength can manage, they will be unable to continue their journeys independently. If the force of the closing device is too great or its speed too fast, disabled people risk being pushed off balance.	M/ST	
12.3	Within some of the WCs, the fittings are generally white seen against a white or pale surround. This does not provide sufficient colour contrast to aid people with impaired vision. Staff First Floor area Dining area	Colour contrast should be added to the fixtures and fittings within the WCs or the walls should contrast from the fittings. According to BS8300 - to help blind and partially sighted people identify key objects within sanitary accommodation, support rails and grab rails should contrast visually with the wall, the WC seat and cover should contrast visually with the WC pan and cistern, and sanitary fittings and accessories should contrast visually with the background against which they are seen.	M/OG	
12.4	Cubicle doors for one of the children's and staff are not appropriately colour contrasted where they are grey with grey surrounds, to aid people with impaired vision. Staff First Floor area Children's area 8	Cubicle doors throughout should appropriately colour contrasted to identify doors within frames to aid people with impaired vision. A difference of 30 points LRV (Light Reflectance Value) is recommended as appropriate contrast. Door opening furniture should contrast visually with the surface of the door which it operates, achieving a difference of at least 15 points in LRV. Door locks and door-furniture should be easy to operate using a 'closed-fist', limited dexterity and/or minimal force. Bolt action and sliding locks are preferred and thumb-turn locks should be avoided.	M/OG	

12.6	The majority of children's WCs, and some staff WCs do not have lever style or sensor operated taps to aid people with dexterity impairments. Staff First Floor area Children's areas 8, 59 (and others) Dining area	It is recommended that push and turn taps should be replaced with lever style or sensor taps, this will aid people with limited dexterity in their wrists. Lever style taps can be left on by kids. According to BS8300 - Taps should either be mixer taps with a single lever action to control water flow, or individual, clearly marked, hot and cold lever-operated taps with not more than a quarter turn from off to full flow.	M/OG	
14.7	There are no height adjustable tables available to accommodate wheelchair users and people of short stature.	Height adjustable table should ideally be purchased and installed for wheelchair users or people of small stature who may require use of one. Consideration should be given to providing adjustable height desks on demand for use by disabled people in shared workshop and task areas. In workplaces adjustable height desks should be provided subject to individual workplace assessments.	M	
15.4	There is no level signage provided within the stairwells to help people identify where they are located within the building.	A wall-mounted information board should be provided at floor level landings of staircases, and at other major decision points in main circulation routes. A stair/level identification sign should be present within the stairwell. This is a tactile and Braille sign next to the door leading out of the stairwell and provides level identification. Signs and universally accepted symbols or pictograms should be provided. Visual signs should be self-evident and, in particular, legible to visually impaired people. Plain English and pictograms together should be used to assist people with learning difficulties.	M	

Priority D

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
4.2	Some handrails did not contrast sufficiently from their background where they are black against dark brick backgrounds. The following steps have suitable handrails on both sides: Main Entrance Steps Entrance area 8 Entrance area 59 Entrance area 56 One area had handrails on one side: Handrails on one side Entrance area 113	BS8300 compliant handrails should be installed. The handrails should be replaced with a BS8300 oval style profile and be coated with nylon or a suitable alternative to ensure that they are not cold to touch. The handrails should have a suitable profile (circular: 40 – 45mm, oval 50mm, in diameter) that projects at least 60 - 75mm clear of the adjacent wall – 50mm between a cranked support and the underside of the handrail. The handrail needs to extend at least 300mm beyond the top and the bottom of the steps and should not project into the route of travel. Handrails should contrast with the surroundings against which they are seen.	M	
4.4	All of the external steps have treads which are long enough and they are of the same length. The main entrance steps have long overhangs. Main Entrance Steps Treads 361mm deep overhang >25mm Risers 155mm high Most steps are of the correct height and there are no open risers which can cause a potential tripping hazard. Some have risers which are shallow such as: Entrance area 8 Risers shallow at <150mm These steps meet requirements: Entrance area 59 Treads and risers ok (289mm, 163mm) Entrance area 113 Treads and risers ok (298mm, 180mm) Entrance area 56 Treads and risers ok (298mm, 170mm) MUPA Treads and risers ok (390mm, 160mm)	Some of the external steps do not meet ADM. If future development is carried out it would be recommended to refer to current standards and upgrade steps to ADM compliance. BS8300 recommendations would be the preferred option. The rise and going of each step should be consistent throughout a flight. Avoid, if possible, step nosings that protrude over the tread below. If the nosing protrudes, ensure that this is by no more than 25mm ADM was referred to for external steps which provide general public access within the site or to each building. This requires goings/ treads between 280-425mm and risers between 150-170mm with no open risers - some flexibility allowed with heights of risers if adjacent to existing buildings and subject to dimensional constraints. BS8300 recommends treads between 300-450mm and risers between 150-180mm.	ST	

7.1	Most main corridors and areas have widths which would easily accomodate wheelchair users. The corridor down areas 1,2,3 are narrower than recommended widths of 1200mm. By staff kitchen, width 890mm	It is noted that space is restricted by structural constraints. Wherever possible ensure that all access routes maintain a minimum clear width. It is preferable to have a minimum aisle width of 1200mm with 1800mm diameter turning space where a turn or return is required. Any adjustments are currently restricted to temporary and free-standing structures and objects with accessible dimensions adopted during future works. With any future development work carried out, refer to current BS8300 standards regarding the widths of access routes internally which should be a minimum of 1200mm wide, and preferably 1800mm wide. Internal doorways should have a width of 800mm minimum, or 825mm where there is right angle turn from a access route that is 1200mm wide. ADM allows that a width of 750/775mm would be acceptable for existing doorways. BS 9999:2017 recommends a minimum effective clear width of 850 mm where unassisted wheelchair access is necessary for the purposes of fire evacuation.	M/ST	
8.4	Doors off area 22 such as the following had widths that were narrower than 750mm. Door narrower than 750mm First floor Men's & Ladies WC (20, 21). All other doors exceed 750mm width which allows wheelchair users to easily pass through without catching their knuckles on the door frames.	Doors on access routes used by disabled people should be prioritised as part of any refurbishment or alteration works in future. Widths should meet ADM vol-2 and BS8300 recommendations. ADM vol-2 requires a minimum door opening width of 750mm for an approach from a 1500mm wide access route and 775mm at right angles to a 1200mm access route. A more accessible specification of 800mm for a straight-on approach or right-angle approach from a 1500mm wide access route and 825mm at right angles to a 1200mm access route is recommended, in accordance with BS8300-2.	ST	
8.5	Door furniture usually had good contrast against its background except for some where there were panels the same colour as the door handles. Most handles are just above recommended heights of 1000mm (for pull handles) and 1050mm (for lever handles) but would be deemed reasonable to retain. Pull handles, to base, height from floor level 1047mm 1058mm Lever handles, to base, height from floor level 1075mm 960mm Staff room 75 handles same colour as background	A rolling refurbishment programme should be implemented to install new BS8300 compliant door furniture. BS8300 recommends that manual door controls should be between 700/1000mm max to 1300mm above floor level for pull handles, and 800-1050mm (900mm preferred) for lever handles. Preferably there should be a clear level approach of 1500 x 1500mm in front of the doorway and controls at least 350mm away from a corner. For easy identification, all door opening furniture should contrast visually with the surface of the door. New furniture handles should be well contrasted and tubular style operated via lever. Door knobs are generally difficult for use by people with ambulant disabilities. People who may have dexterity impairments or arthritis due to the wrist action required to open them. It is understood that door control systems in nursery may be positioned for safeguarding purposes; however, in the event that this room is to be accessed by a wheelchair user or someone who is short in stature, suitable procedures must be in place to ensure independent access can be gained.	M/OG	

14.8	Staff kitchenettes in rooms 9, 34 No lever taps are provided. Main staff room 77 has lever taps. No lowered counters are provided. EYFS classroom area has lowered counters with lever taps provided.	A kitchen area should have an unobstructed floor space of at least 1 500 mm × 1 500 mm between facing floor units or between floor units and a wall. Where possible, an unobstructed space or knee recess, at least 800 mm wide, should be provided to one side of kitchen appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines, freezers or ovens. Taps should be changed to lever style or automatic sensor taps to aid people with limited dexterity. The kitchenettes should include disability access, i.e., a section of work top lowered to 760mm (or 850 for a shared worksurface) with clear space underneath of minimum 700mm to allow wheelchair access; sink unit to have lever taps fitted, and utensils included.	M/ST	
15.2	Upon entering the reception area there is a lack of suitable directory signage.	Signs and universally accepted symbols or pictograms, indicating lifting appliances, stairs, toilets, circulation routes and other parts of the building, should be provided in the reception area. The NHS Wayfinding guide and Exhibitions for All (NMS) offers good guidance regarding positioning. Consistency of sign height and position throughout the premises is important. Signs should be placed between 1400mm and 1700mm for blind and partially sighted people when standing. For wheelchair users signs should be placed between 1000mm and 1100mm above floor level. Signs associated with control panels, e.g. lifts or door entry systems should be located between 900mm x 1200mm, to meet the needs of both wheelchair users and people standing. The RNIB and the Joint Mobility Unit recommend positioning all signs at eye level (1500 mm), including tactile (embossed) and Braille signs. If posts are used for fixing signs, or signs are free-standing, they must contrast with the environment so they are visible for people with visual impairment.	M/OG	
15.6	Noticeboards were generally to display pupils work and they were deemed appropriate. Some of the covers may be reflective from some angles.	Reflective covers or poorly positioned lighting that cause difficulties with reading information should be avoided. Information within display boards should use a mix of upper and lower case letters. Sentences or single word messages should begin with an upper case letter and continue with lower case letters. Text entirely in upper case type (capitals) should not be used. Any sans serif typeface with a relatively large x-height (lower case letter height) to capital height should be used. Information boards with detailed text should be at an accessible height of between 1200-1600mm.	N/OG	

15.8	A tactile map would be extremely beneficial for a school of this size.	Suggest providing tactile options such as tactile handouts, or tactile maps internally within the site. BS8300 recommends that all key location information, such as sign directories, orientation signs, maps and plans, should be both visual and in tactile form where low enough to be touched. Where practicable, audible information should also be provided. Orientation (“you are here”) information should be provided in accessible places. It should be clearly signposted and located alongside the main accessible route within a building, or clearly visible from the entrance to a building, so that it can be examined without restricting the access route. The orientation of maps and plans should match that of the building. Direct Access provides tactile maps, please contact us for further details.	M	
16.2	The majority of the light switch plates are not suitably colour contrasted against their background. Some are also located high for a wheelchair user or a person of short stature at over 1200mm from floor level.	At the next refurbishment for the sites, it would be beneficial to change the existing light switch plates with alternatives that have a grey/silver plate. Alternatively, light switch plates with a contrasting surround could be used. This will ensure that they are easily located by people with impaired vision.	M	
16.4	There were wall lights seen in one stairwell which can cause glare.	Each flight and landing of a stepped access route should be well illuminated, providing a clear distinction between each step and riser. The illuminance at tread level should be at least 100 lux. Lighting that causes glare (such as poorly located wall lights, spotlights, floodlights or low-level light sources) should be avoided.	M	