

St Michael's Church Access Statement

Introduction

St Michael's Church is a grade 2 listed building, which means there are limits to the changes that can be made to the physical building. However, we are committed to access and inclusion within the Aberystwyth Ministry Area and want to make changes where we can.

The aim of this statement is to help you know what to expect when attending the church, whether for a service or just visiting.

Car Parking

There is a designated car park for the church, which is only available to those attending services on Sundays to ensure that there is enough space. There are no blue badge holder parking spaces. If you are concerned about not being able to park close enough, then please get in contact and we will reserve a space for you.

Access

The church is directly next to the car park. However, the surface of the car park is uneven and so might be bumpy or uncomfortable to traverse in a wheelchair or with similar mobility aids, but it is possible.

The main entrance to the church is step-free with a slight ramp.

Inside the church

The main section of the church has box pews which are not accessible by wheelchair, but there is plenty of space at the back where there are chairs instead. A chair can easily be removed to accommodate a wheelchair. Please ask one of our welcome team for assistance.

There are a few steps into the chancel (altar) area of the church, which means that wheelchair users or those with limited mobility may be unable to access it.

It is our practice for the bread and wine for Holy Communion to be taken to anyone who might find difficulty accessing or climbing the chancel steps. Please inform our welcome team if you would find this helpful.

The church has a fully accessible unisex toilet, including a baby change unit, for use by those attending services. It is located opposite the kitchen, next to the office. In the northwest corner of the church.

The church has an induction loop system for hearing aid users, and those speaking at the front use microphones to make sure they are heard clearly. Music is also amplified for this purpose.

Screens are mounted on the walls around the church that show a camera view of those speaking, any information required, or the lyrics to the hymns. If you have problems with vision, then it may be beneficial to sit closer to these screens. Large-print service booklets are available on request.

There are times in a service where those leading may ask the congregation to stand, but you are always welcome to stay seated if you would prefer, or if this would be more comfortable for you.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss access within the church for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact elizabeth@stmikes.net or the office.