



EMMAUSRD
**ACCESSIBILITY
& SUPPORT**

At Emmaus Rd we believe that everybody, whatever their level of ability, brings something to our community and can encounter God. We understand that for some, accessing church on a Sunday, and events throughout the week can be challenging for numerous reasons. If we could make any changes to make your experience at Emmaus Rd more welcoming and accessible, please let us know.



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Families who have children with additional needs are an important part of our community at Emmaus Rd. We believe all children are valued equally and created in God's image. We are honoured to serve those with additional needs, and want to provide an environment where every child can have an encounter with God.

We aim to ensure all children and young people are able to access our church activities on a Sunday and throughout the week wherever possible. We understand that some will need extra support to do this, whether this is an understanding group leader or a trained 1:1.

Please do let us know if you are planning on joining us so we can talk through your child's needs to enable us to be best prepared to support them.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

We like our worship to be quite loud! We realise that this is not suited to everyone and that some people can be extra sensitive to the volume for lots of reasons. We have ear defenders and ear plugs available to help with this, they are usually in a basket by the entrance to the theatre or please ask one of our welcome team who will be happy to find you some.

For the hearing impaired there are facilities available at the theatre to assist you, if you would like to know more please just ask!

If you need an altered format (for example large print) of any of the literature we produce, please do get in contact and we will happily arrange this for you.

If you are finding any part of a Sunday morning particularly difficult please do get in touch with us and we will do our best to help make things easier.

VENUE ACCESS

We are spread across 3 main sites at Emmaus, these all vary in their levels of accessibility. If the access of a particular building is preventing you from taking in part in something we offer please do let us know and we'll do what we can to help you.



YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE

There is level or ramped access into the main building which is where we serve tea and coffee. Access into the main auditorium is via a door just along from the main entrance, this corridor has an accessible toilet, and then leads into the theatre where there are easily accessible seats and spaces for wheelchairs where the theatre seats are removable to allow wheelchair users to sit in a row without being sat out away from others.

Some of our children's groups meet on the upper level in the main theatre which is accessed via a lift. Two of our children's groups meet across the road at the Founders Studio, there are some stairs up to these rooms.

Assistant dogs are welcome at the Yvonne. Blue badge disabled bay parking is available right outside the theatre.

If you have any queries regarding more specific access requirements, please contact us and we will do our best to help you.



FOUNDERS STUDIO

This is a multi-level building so accessibility is variable.

The main room is accessed via Rosemary Alley, this route has 5 steps when you access the alley from the bottom of the hill (Millbrook Road – A281). There is a hand rail on the left hand side up these steps. Our church prayer room is at the bottom of this building, it is accessed via one small step up into the room. When no big events are happening there is a small car port big enough for one car should you need to part close to access the prayer room.

Disabled parking can be found along the road behind the Founders studio (quarry street) and opposite outside the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre. There are also some disabled parking bays in the Millbrook car park just down the road from the Founders Studio.



ALLEN HOUSE

Disabled parking can be found in York Road car park. If you park on the top level, you can directly access the pathway which leads up to Allen house.

There are a few small steps up to the doorways at the front of the building with railings on each side of the steps, more level access is available around the side of the building through the 24/7 prayer entrance over a small threshold.

REMOVING THE DIVIDE

We recently hosted an event as part of our ongoing vision to ensure that Emmaus is a welcoming and inclusive church to people of all abilities.

You can catch up with all the podcasts here if you'd like more information on how to understand the perspectives of those with additional needs.



▶ DISABILITY AND THE CHURCH

Pete Greig, Mike Norris, Jenny Treleaven

How can we understand and respond to disability within our churches

www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNA4tIZFskQ

▶ THE FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Bill Cahusac, Rhona and John

Interviews with two families to gain an understanding of the parent's perspective when raising a child with an additional need.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cW-ISiryqA

▶ THE SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVE

Jenny Treleaven

What does the bible say about disability and how can we respond within the church in a way that is helpful and avoids causing hurt?

www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwjaOH76ljk

▶ A CHURCH INCLUSION STORY

St Saviours describe how their additional ministry started.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1kAAhuNuzk

▶ THE INDIVIDUAL PERSPECTIVE

Steff Shepherd (Sensory Processing), Sophie Oliver & Beth Lowe (Language & Communication) and Sue Stephens (Challenging Behaviour)

How does disability impact on children and adults within our church congregations, by understanding this how does it impact on our approaches as churches.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=An431Kv1o-4

RESOURCE PACK

To receive the resource pack that goes with this event please e-mail jenny.treleaven@emmausrd.com



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY & SUPPORT

For more information about anything you have read please contact Jenny Treleaven by emailing jenny.treleaven@emmausrd.com

Jenny is a Paediatric Occupational Therapist at a local school for children with complex needs. She is passionate about seeing those with a disability included and welcomed into every part of church and heads up this work at Emmaus Rd, both in church and through our Family Outreach team.

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