

# Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum Access Statement

## Introduction

Worcester City Art Gallery and Museum hosts a unique programme of contemporary art exhibitions, as well as housing an historic picture collection, an intriguing selection of objects showcasing Worcester's illustrious past, and the Worcestershire Soldier Museum. The Art Gallery and Museum are committed to widening access and providing for the needs of all its visitors. We are constantly seeking to improve the quality and accessibility of our building and we welcome feedback from our visitors. The Art Gallery and Museum is housed in a Grade II listed Victorian building, where we have provided appropriate adjustments for accessibility within legal boundaries.

## Prior to Arrival

- The Art Gallery and Museum can be contacted using the following methods

Post: Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum, Foregate Street,  
Worcester. WR1 1DT

Phone: 01905 25371      Fax: 01905 616979

Email: [gallerymuseum@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:gallerymuseum@worcestershire.gov.uk)

- Our website ([www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)) is hosted by Worcestershire County Council using a responsive, accessible design suitable for the wide range of browsers and devices available. Our website is tested by Shaw Trust to ensure compliance with web accessibility standards WCAG 2.0 AA to meet the varying needs of our audience.
- Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum is situated 150 metres from Worcester Foregate Street Railway Station.
- For information about trains to/from Worcester Foregate Street Station please visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk/](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/)

- For local bus information please visit [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/bus/route-finder.aspx](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/bus/route-finder.aspx) or alternatively telephone Traveline on 0871 200 2233.

- Taxi firms with wheelchair accessible taxis operating in the area include

A1 Taxis 01905 674934

Associated Bluestar 01905 610022

Cathedral Cars 01905 767400

Central Taxis 01905 674640

Commandey Cars 01905 764940

Worcester TOA Taxis 01905 29999

### **Arrival and car parking**

- The nearest car parks to the Art Gallery and Museum are in Taylor's Lane and at Pitchcroft Race Course.
- Parking for Blue Badge holders is situated at The Cross. This is approximately 320 metres (0.2 miles), around 5 minute walk away. However, there is 45 minute parking situated on Sansome Walk (behind the Art Gallery & Museum). Access to the lift from here is via a level path along Taylor's Lane, approximately 70 meters away.
- Assistance dogs are welcome in the Art Gallery and Museum.

### **Main entrance and shop area**

- The main entrance on the ground floor can be accessed from the pavement level by lift on Taylor's Lane, or from Foregate Street by a small number of steps.
- There are seven steps from the pavement to the main entrance. They measure 336cm wide, with a tread of 15cm and depth of 32cm. The handrail is 84cm high.
- The floor surface is mosaic tiles and level throughout.

- Just inside the main doors are two thin mats to minimise dirt levels. They are non-slip.
- The entrance and shop area is uniformly lit with large ceiling lights and low energy flood lights.
- The shop is open and manned from 10.30 – 4.30 Monday – Friday, and 10.00 – 4.30 on Saturdays.
- The shop counter is 99cm high.
- The chip and pin terminal is situated on the shop counter, near the till point. The lead is flexible to allow movement higher/lower than the counter.
- Price labels are printed, but not in large print.
- The display shelves are at a variety of heights from ground level upwards.
- Staff are happy to move and carry stock for customers and assist with any price enquiries.

### **Public areas: General**

- The Art Gallery and Museum can be accessed by stairs or lift. The lift entrance is at pavement level, on Taylor's Lane and services all floors.
- The lift is fully enclosed, with a sliding door measuring 80cm wide. The fixed horizontal handrail on the left as you walk into the lift is 92cm high and the push button controls are at a maximum height of 101cm. The lift doors on each landing are automatic and slide open to the left. The lift system features an emergency alarm and hearing loop. There is one main staircase connecting the ground floor to the first floor. The stairs are 226cm wide; each tread is 13.5cm high and 29.5cm deep, with a banister height of 98 – 104cm. Flooring surfaces throughout the Art Gallery and Museum galleries are either carpet or linoleum.
- All routes through the Art Gallery and Museum galleries are kept clear and free of obstacle.
- Fire exits are clearly signposted.

## **Public areas: Art Gallery**

- The Art Gallery is manned from 10.30 – 4.30 Monday – Saturday.
- The reception desk is 90cm at its highest, and drops down to 80cm at its lowest.
- The Art Gallery and adjoining Watercolour Gallery are both fitted with a hearing loop.
- Seating in the galleries varies with each exhibition, but ranges from two-seater leather sofa to wooden chairs or upholstered bench.
- Lighting can vary with different exhibitions depending upon the nature and vulnerability of the exhibits on display. Generally the gallery is lit with an LED wall wash and/or LED spot lights.
- A copy of the gallery labels in large print is available at the art gallery reception desk.

## **Public areas: Worcestershire Soldier Museum**

- The Worcestershire Soldier Museum is manned 10.30 – 4.30 Monday – Saturday.
- There is a wheelchair available from this desk that can be borrowed for the duration of your visit. The wheelchair can also be pre-booked by calling 01905 25371.
- The reception desk is 92cm high.
- Exhibits are displayed in cases with glass fronts 46cm from the floor to 210cm and are viewable from wheelchair height.
- There are four medal cases with pull out drawers. The glass display at the top measures 94cm from the floor, and maybe difficult to view from a wheelchair. However, the drawers are easily accessible to all, the lowest measuring 15cm from the floor.
- There are large interpretation panels throughout, as well as two audio units fitted with hearing loops.

## **Public areas: Museum galleries**

- The showcases in the museum vary in height and style. The objects in most of the cases are viewable from wheelchair height; however there is one slopping desk case where access may be difficult. The case measures 81cm from the floor at the front and 108cm at the back.
- There are large interpretation panels and labels are printed black on white in a clear font such as Arial, Verdana or Calibri, with a minimum 16 point text.

## **Public WCs**

- Lavatories are located on the first floor of the Art Gallery & Museum, next to the Art Gallery and lift.
- The doors are clearly signposted with text and pictorial signs. There is one male, one female with baby change facilities and one disabled access toilet with baby change facilities.
- The accessible WC contains a toilet, hand basin and hand dryer. There is adequate room for a wheelchair user to be accompanied. Flooring is linoleum and of a contrasting colour to the walls.
- Access is via a sliding door, 82cm wide, sliding open to the right. The toilet seat is 47cm high; it is positioned in one corner so that when sitting on the toilet transfer off would be to the user's left. There is one fixed horizontal grab rail to the right of the toilet at 73cm, and one hinged support rail to the left of the toilet – 70cm when lowered. The sink is 69cm from the floor and has a lever operated mixer tap. There is an emergency pull cord with an audible alarm. The WC also has two coat hooks and a pull-down baby changing board. The total area in the disabled WC measures 2.12 x 1.40 metres.
- There are two toilet cubicles in the female facilities. One measures 1.5 x 0.81 metres and the other 1.47 x 0.64 metres. Toilet seats are 42cm high. There are also two sinks and a baby changing matt.
- The cubicle in the male WC measures 1.27 x 0.60 metres, with the toilet seat 42cm high. There are two urinals measuring 62cm from the floor and two sinks.

## **Café**

- The Balcony Café is uniformly lit by large ceiling lights and large windows let in plenty of natural light.
- Tables are movable. They measure 76cm high and have one central leg support. The café chairs have no arm rests.
- Café staff are happy to help with any menu enquiries, and can provide information about ingredients for those with food allergies.
- The café provides table service.
- The toilets are easily accessed from the café.

### **General information**

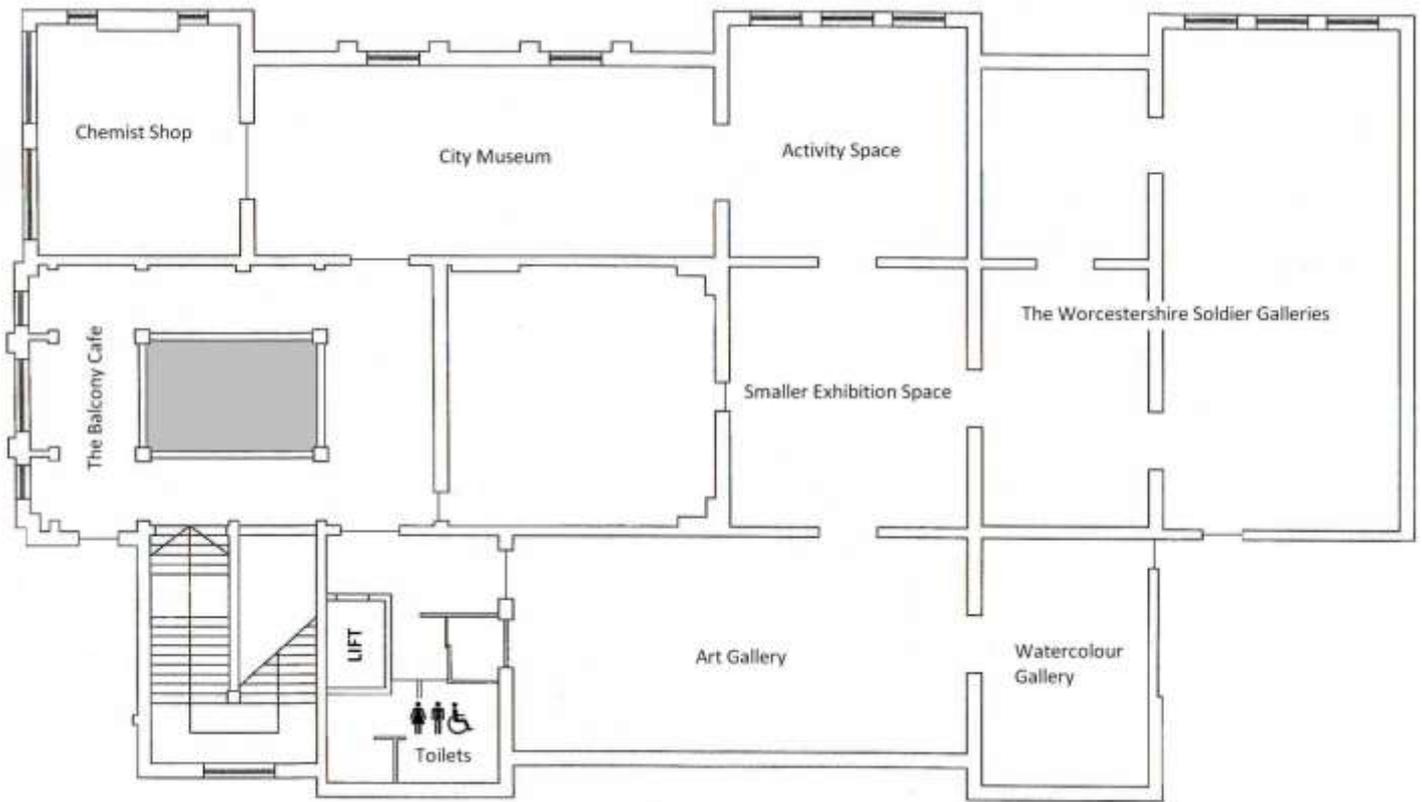
- Opening hours:

<b>Museum &amp; Art Gallery</b>	10.30 – 4.30 Monday – Saturday
<b>Café</b>	10.30 – 4.15 Monday – Friday
	10.00 – 4.15 Saturday
<b>Shop</b>	10.30 – 4.30 Monday – Friday
	10.00 – 4.30 Saturday

The building is closed on Sundays and bank holidays.

- The majority of our staff are trained emergency first-aiders; usually there will be at least one first aider on duty at any time.

## First Floor



## Ground Floor

