Gerald Moore Gallery Access Policy

Aims and Objectives

The aim of this Policy is to ensure that The Gerald Moore Gallery provides the widest possible access to its building and activities to enable audiences from all sections of the community to enjoy the use of the art gallery.

Overcoming Barriers to Access

- To better improve access and as much as resources allow, The Gerald Moore Gallery will aim to:
- Build accessibility or access provisions into everything we do to develop and improve our activities
- Consult our visitors, staff and volunteers on an ongoing basis to better understand their access needs
- Provide ongoing training in access issues for staff and volunteers
- Make sure the wider community has a means of engaging with and accessing what we offer, which might involve taking work off site, working in new ways with community groups and opening ourselves up to new audiences in ways that work for them
- Ensure all our exhibitions and events consider different access needs and can be enjoyed by the widest range of people
- Use accessible interpretation materials in a range of media

To eliminate barriers and ensure equality of access we will consider the following forms of accessibility:

Physical: We will seek to provide all visitors with access to the building, making alternative provisions for exhibitions and classes where required.

Sensory: We will enable visitors with impaired vision or hearing to enjoy the gallery’s buildings, collections, displays and activities. An example of this is the production of large print text for our temporary exhibitions.

Intellectual: We recognise that people have different learning styles, and we will provide interpretation in a range of learning styles. We also aim to ensure people with learning difficulties can engage with and enjoy everything that The GMG offers.
Cultural: We will consider the needs of people for whom English is not a first language, or whose knowledge of English history and culture may be limited.

Attitudinal / Emotional: We will ensure staff welcome visitors from all sections of the community.

Financial: General admission to the GMG is free but there is a charge for most classes. We aim to offer free art activities every holiday and when reviewing our charges, we will take into account that ability to pay can be a barrier to access.

Current provisions

- Ramp access to entrance/two steps to entrance with handrail
- Doorbell access at wheelchair height
- Ground floor access to lower gallery, retail space and downstairs toilet
- Chairs/Stools – available from the Reception Desk on request.
- Assistance dogs are welcome
- Wheelchair friendly toilet and baby changing facilities are located on the ground floor
- Three ground floor fire exits
- There are two access parking bays available. To book in advance of visit call 02088570448
- Lift to 1st floor suitable for buggies or others that would need it for mobility but would be able to manage stairs in the event of a fire.

Our spaces are wheelchair friendly, however anyone with mobility issues who is unable to use the stairs cannot access our 1st floor gallery. We are currently exploring how to bring the rest of the building up to the same standard through ongoing assessments.

Safety in the building

The Gallery takes account of the needs of all visitors in all our safety procedures. It is the policy of the Gallery to enable all occupants of the building to be evacuated at the same time in an emergency.
The Gallery provides staff trained in responding to emergencies, including fire safety, and first aid incidents.

**Information and signage**

The Gallery aims to provide information in forms that are accessible to all visitors including large print text for any exhibition handouts and images that can be viewed on our website www.geraldmooregallery.org

**Learning**

The Gallery delivers a wide range of learning programmes for different audiences, designed to suit different levels of knowledge, backgrounds, interests, and learning styles.

**Review**

This policy will be reviewed every five years.

**Policy availability**

A copy of this policy is available to all members of the public via our website and on request from our reception.