Beckfoot Priestthorpe 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
3.1	The ramp leading towards the site management and storage area was approximately 1000mm wide with a steep gradient. The wooden ramp leading into the entrance near to the main hall, featured a height of approximately 570mm and a length of 4080mm. A ramp was identified between the rear play areas. This was not a constructed ramp, rather a change in topography. A ramp was identified leading from nursery. This ramp featured a slightly uneven gradient, becoming steeper towards the bottom.	External ramps should be subject to remedial works to reduce the gradients to reasonable slopes that can comply with BS8300 and ADM-2:1.26 requirements. Any permanent ramp must be a maximum 1:12 over a maximum going of 2m, it should be a minimum 1.2m wide and feature 1.2m landings at head and foot, handrails to both sides and a contrasted sloped surface.	M	
3.4	The edging provided to the ramp, by the main hall, was below the recommended 100mm. Edging was not provided to the ramp leading from nursery, which could lead to a trip hazard.	There should be a kerb on the open side of any ramp or landing, at least 100mm high, which contrasts visually with the ramp or landing, in addition to any guarding required.	M	

Priority B

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
1.1	Beckfoot Priestthorpe Primary School is located on Mornington Road and was constructed circa 1870s. Bingley Train Station is located within 0.4 miles and bus stops are located along Mornington Road within close proximity to the school. The school does not feature its own car park. Road parking was required on areas surrounding the school. Options on how to arrive at the school are not provided to the website.	Options on how to arrive at the site should be clearly illustrated on literature and on the website. The information regarding the site on the internet should be fully accessible for persons with reading disabilities through enlargement capability and screen readers, combined with synthetic speech or Braille displays. A clear and logical design that includes written explanations for visual or audio content. Text and graphics should be easily understood without use of colour The new revision of the BS8300 highlights the importance of communication prior to a site visit. BS8300 states that clear and accurate pre-visit information via websites, literature, social media, telecommunications that is easy to access and understand and available in alternative formats, including details of modes of transport, parking, drop-off and what level of accessibility to expect on arrival should be provided.	**N**	
9.4	Handrails were not provided to this ramp. A gate was positioned at this area.	Refer to 9.2 for the recommended reconfiguration of this ramp. Once reconfigured, install handrails to aid ambulant disabled persons.. Ensure that the handrails are well contrasted against their surround. According to BS8300 - Many ambulant disabled people find it easier to negotiate a flight of steps than a ramp and, for them, the presence of handrails for support is essential.	**M**	
12.6	Many facilities featured suitable lever style controls. Turn style taps were identified in the WCs, upstairs near to the offices. Push style taps were identified in the WC facilities sign posted for boys.	The remaining push and turn style taps should be replaced with lever style, this will aid people with limited dexterity in their wrists. According to BS8300 - Taps should either be mixer taps with an up and down action to control water flow or individual hot and cold lever operated taps with not more than a quarter turn from off to full flow.	**M**	

Priority C

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
4.2	Suitable handrails were provided to the main entrance steps. The remaining steps featured handrails with suitable profiles; however, these were exposed metal and could be cold to the touch.	BS8300 compliant handrails should be installed to both sides of the external steps. The handrails should be coated with nylon or a suitable alternative to ensure that they are not cold to touch.	**M**	
5.1	The location of the main entrance was visible from the facade. The visitor entrance and student entrance doors were not well contrasted against the surrounding frame.	Colour contrast should be added to the entrance to ensure that it is clearly visible on approach to aid people with impaired vision. AD M - The presence of the door should be apparent not only when it is shut but also when it is open. Where it can be held open, steps should be taken to avoid people being harmed by walking into the door.	**M**	
5.6	Powered doors were provided. No issues to report. The proximity reader identified on the Year 8 entrance was not clearly visible from the frame.	For easy identification, all door opening furniture should contrast visually with the surface of the door. A finish should be present that can achieve a minimum of 30 points lrv (Light Reflectance Value) between the system and the surroundings. This could be achieved by providing a contrasted band around the proximity reader systems.	**M**	
5.8	The entry phone at the main entrance was located at approximately 1100mm from ground floor level. The intercom for the CTMC building may not be suitable for approach for all users as it was directly next to the door and marginally high from ground floor level.	Ensure that all operating parts for the intercom at the CTMC building are within 1050mm off the landing level and ensure no obstruction below. Ensure that it is well contrasted against the background upon which it is seen. Note AD M is not descriptive on intercoms and BS8300, best practice should be referred to. In all cases when installing intercoms specialist advice should be sought. BS8300 States - Entryphone systems should be sited for approach and use from a wheelchair 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. NOTE Video Entryphone systems provide additional benefits for the person answering the call, as well as for the person wishing to gain entry.	**M**	
6.7	No signage was identified to state that information provided by the school could be provided in alternative, accessible formats.	It is recommended that signage be installed to indicate that all public information issued can be provided in accessible formats on request. Refer to 15.7.	**N**	
8.2	There are areas of large glazing across the school. These areas featured manifestations; however, these were not always clearly visible from all angles and lighting, which could create a collision hazard. These glazed areas were identified in areas that include, but are not limited to, the main entrance lobby doors, the glazed areas by the stairwells, the large, glazed areas overlooking the sports courts to the side of the building, the glazed areas overlooking the dining hall, the glazed areas opposite F51 and the glazed barriers overlooking the dining hall. Large areas of glazing, particularly at heights, can cause difficulties for people with vestibular conditions.	The glazed areas must be clearly highlighted with manifestation that contrasts visually with the surface behind it. This manifestation should be located within two zones, from 850mm to 1000mm from the floor and from 1400mm to 1600mm from the floor. PAS 6463: Where full-height glazing are proposed on upper floors, the impact should be assessed. The application of non-transparent manifestation or non-reflective film to a lower proportion of the glazing should be taken into account as a helpful intervention, without affecting views out. Full-height glazing can cause difficulties for some people with vestibular conditions, such as Meniere's, particularly at upper levels where they can feel unsteady or dizzy.	**M**	

8.3	Suitable vision panels were provided to many of the communal, frequently used doors but there are doors on site with high vision panels. High set vision panels could be a collision hazard for people who are wheelchair users or people who are short in stature. Some doors featured blinds to assist with privacy whilst rooms were in use. Doors with paper on the vision panels was identified, which is not recommended as this could cause a collision hazard.	It is recommended that site management implement a procedure to ensure that the temporary notices are not on the vision panels. This will prevent a potential collision hazard. Should privacy be required, suitable blinds should be purchase for these doors.	**M/N**	
10.3	Handrails in the main building stairwells were well contrasted, positioned and extended 300mm beyond the final steps. The handrail based in the CTMC building did not extend onto the level landing.	The handrail in the CTMC building should be extended throughout its length (including intermediate landings) without obstructing access routes.	**M**	
11.3	The support rails provided to each of the lifts were not well contrasted against the surroundings. Contrast could assist people who are partially sighted.	The lift car should include a contrasted handrail at 900mm height located so that it does not obstruct controls or mirror.	**M**	
12.3	Many of the fittings were well contrasted against their surroundings. Those which are white, against a light grey surrounding, or those positioned within the CTMC building facility were not well contrasted to assist people who are partially sighted.	Greater contrast should be considered for the fixtures and fittings within the WCs. This can be achieved by having light sanitary ware seen against a dark background or vice versa. 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**	
12.4	The lock was slightly broken on the female, staff facility on the second floor. Student WC facilities did not have contrasting cubicle doors as they were the same colour as the frames. This could be confusing for people who are partially sighted.	Site management to schedule maintenance and repair of the lock for the staff, female facility on the first floor. 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.	**M**	
12.5	Of the urinals identified, contrast was not provided to assist people who are partially sighted. Grab rails were not identified that could assist people with ambulant disabilities.	The surface finish of sanitary fittings and sanitary-ware, such as urinals, sinks and toilets, should contrast visually with background wall and floor finishes. An LRV (Light Reflectance Value) difference of 30 points is considered good contrast. A well contrasted grab rail should be provided to both sides of one urinal in every WC where applicable.	**M**	
12.7	Facilities for people with ambulant disabilities were provided across the WC facilities. The grab rails were not well contrasted, and the cord alarm systems were either tied or not positioned within a suitable distance to the ground floor level.	Any ambulant disabled cubicle provided should be AD M compliant at least 800mm wide with 750mm clear space in front of the WC pan and should include well contrasted grab-rails, clothes hooks at two heights and an outward opening door. Implement a management procedure to ensure that cord alarms are always kept loose and not tied up. According to BS8300 - An emergency assistance pull cord should be sited so that it can be operated from the WC and from an adjacent floor area. The emergency assistance pull cord, coloured red, should be provided with two red bangles of 50 mm diameter, one set at a height between 800 mm and 1000 mm and the other set at 100 mm above floor level.	**M**	

14.2	Minimal chairs with armrests were identified in the learning areas, which could assist people with ambulant disabilities.	Where possible, seating should meet the following recommendations. 1) There should be a variety of seat heights, ranging from 380 mm to 580 mm, within which a height of 480 mm is suitable for wheelchair users. 2) Armrests should be provided to help people lower themselves onto the seat and stand up. 3) Where the seat is set at a height suitable for wheelchair users, armrests should not be at the extreme end of the seat but set in so as not to restrict the lateral transfer from a wheelchair to the seating. they should also not restrict front or oblique transfer. 4) A supportive back-rest should be incorporated for at least 50% of the length of the seat.	**M**	
14.4	The dining area featured tables with fixed seating. Is there sufficient space for a wheelchair user to approach the table and sit alongside companions?	Pedestal design tables are preferred to provide a less obstructed recess beneath that can better accommodate wheelchair users.	**M**	
15.3	Most facilities featured suitable signage across the school. The shower room for staff, in the sports centre, was not suitably sign posted to assist with identifying its location. There is accessible WC signage positioned marginally high from ground floor level, at approximately 1470mm, which may not be a suitable height for all eye levels.	The appropriate signage should be provided for the staff facilities in the sports centre. As well as signage on the doors, there should also be signs indicating where the facilities are located. BS8300 states - Information and direction signs should be provided at each point where they are required, e.g. at junctions of circulation routes, at key locations such as doorways and reception points, at facilities such as telephones and toilets, and in rooms, spaces and counters. The colour, design and typeface of signs should be consistent throughout a building. All accessible WC door signage should ideally be accessible to all disabled people with Braille and embossed lettering preferred. This should be suitable positioned for all eye levels.	**M**	
15.7	No leaflets were identified. Is any information provided by the school offered in alternative, accessible environments?	Have procedures in place to produce documents in accessible formats. These formats are Audio, Braille, Large Print, Easy-Read and electronic formats such as WORD and PDF that are more accessible to screen reading technology. Include the phrase "Alternative Formats Available on Request" on written material. You must have contacts and procedures in place to satisfy a request. See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inclusive-communication/accessible-communication-formats It is recommended that signage be installed to indicate that all public information issued can be provided in accessible formats on request. Direct Access is able to provide materials in accessible formats such as Braille, BSL (British Sign Language), tactile maps and audio descriptions. Please contact the Direct Access Implementation Team for more details at info@directaccess.group.	**M**	
17.2	The main school building featured level egress on all ground floor exits. Stepped egress was identified to the rear of the CTMC building.	Ideally, permanently ramped exits should be provided. It is acceptable in the short-term to provide a portable temporary ramp made available on demand with appropriate assistance. Any equipment and assistance must be part of an escape plan, see 18.5, 18.6, 18.7.	**M**	

Priority D

Item ref	Details / issue	Recommendation	Est cost	Action Taken
1.2	The crossings on approach to the school featured dropped kerbs; however, tactile paving was not always provided, which could assist people who are partially sighted.	Site management should undertake liaison with the appropriate Council Department to provide tactile paving in the area to aid people with impaired vision.	**N**	
1.8	Minimal seating with armrests was identified in the play area. Armrests could assist people with ambulant disabilities.	Provide benches with armrests. Ensure that the armrests are well contrasted and that there is a space either side of the seat so that a wheelchair user can park alongside a seated companion Seating in resting places should meet the following recommendations. 1) There should be a variety of seat heights, ranging from 380 mm to 580 mm, within which a height of 480 mm is suitable for wheelchair users. 2) Armrests should be provided to help people lower themselves onto the seat and stand up. 3) Where the seat is set at a height suitable for wheelchair users, armrests should not be at the extreme end of the seat but set in so as not to restrict the lateral transfer from a wheelchair to the seating. they should also not restrict front or oblique transfer. 4) A supportive back-rest should be incorporated for at least 50% of the length of the seat.	**M**	
4.1	Tactile warnings were not provided to the external steps surrounding the school.	Implement a rolling programme to install tactile paving to the top of the external steps throughout the site. 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**	
7.5	There should be a visual contrast between the wall and the ceiling and between the wall and the floor. The LRV of a wall should be 30 points different from that of the ceiling and of the floor. To avoid giving the wrong impression of a room, skirtings should have the same LRV as walls so that the junction between the skirting and the floor marks the extent of the room.	This colour scheme should be reviewed as it does not provide a suitable colour palette for those who have impaired vision. There should be a visual contrast between the wall and the ceiling and between the wall and the floor. The LRV of a wall should be 30 points different from that of the ceiling and of the floor. To avoid giving the wrong impression of a room, skirtings should have the same LRV as walls so that the junction between the skirting and the floor marks the extent of the room.	**M**	

14.4	The seating provided to the dining area was fixed. This may not be suitable for all users.	Where possible a variety of seat heights at 380mm, 480mm and 580mm should be provided with some seating available with back and arm-rests. For single height only the seat height should be between 450mm – 480mm. Some seating should be freely moveable.	**M**	
14.8	A lowered worktop was provided to the main staffroom and nursery kitchenettes, which also featured lever style taps. The kitchenette in year 1 was not lowered but did feature lever style taps. Many classrooms featured turn style taps, including in years 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, which may not be suitable for people with limited dexterity in their wrists.	Site management to implement a rolling programme to replace the turn style taps with lever style 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**	
15.2	Some of the information provided in reception was high from ground floor level and may not be accessible for all eye levels.	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**	

16.2	Light switch plates provided across the school were not well contrasted. Some of which were positioned high from ground floor level and may not be accessible for all users.	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**	
16.3	Most learning spaces featured suitable blinds. There were areas on the first floor that did not feature blinds or curtains to assist with controlling glare from natural light.	Both natural and artificial sources of lighting should be designed to avoid creating glare, pools of bright light and strong shadows. Provide blinds or a suitable alternative to the first floor. Wherever possible, safe and accessible controls for opening and closing curtains/blinds/shutters automatically or by other means of remote control should be provided for use by disabled people. Rods or pull cords for manually opening and closing curtains are acceptable.	**M**	
16.4	The stairwells were well illuminated but the stairwell leading towards the Trust area featured wall lighting. This could create glare for people who are partially sighted.	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**	