






The Church at Carrs Lane and Carrs Lane Conference Centre: Access information



Church and centre website	To find us online use: http://www.carrslane.co.uk		
Parking	https://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/b4_7sx/?arriving=201907191000&leaving=201907191200 There are some spaces at church, access via Albert Street and New Meeting Street. They are on 'first-come, first-served' basis. There is a charge of £9 for a full day and £4.50 for a half day, Monday-Saturday, free if attending church on Sunday. Please call ahead if you need to book a disabled space and we will do our best to reserve for you.		
Disabled Parking	As above, the spaces are limited so if you have a blue badge and need a space reserved, please call ahead on 0121 643 6151 and we will do our best. The gate is usually locked, so please let us know when you call if you would have difficulties in coming to reception for the gate key. Parking is at the rear of the building and the car park area is sloped. Access to the building without steps is around at the front on Moor Street Queensway via a slope.		
	 <p>Rear of building with sloped car park and disability parking space</p>	 <p>car park gate</p>	 <p>Front door with access slope</p>

Access:

You can drop off passengers at the church before finding parking in one of the two town car-parks within easy walking distance of the church located in Albert Street B4 7LN or Dalton Street B4 7LX .

How to enter the church – There are 2 doors into the church. The ‘back’ door is nearest the green next to Travelodge and is on Carrs Lane where many city buses stop. This access is across a sloped car park and there is a flight of steps inside to access the foyer. There is a hand-rail on these steps.

The front door has a slope or steps and is suitable for wheelchair/buggy/scooter/walking frame access.

The front and back doors have a call access system. These doors are locked Monday-Saturday and visitors need to press the silver call button on the right of either door. On Sunday mornings for worship, these doors are stewarded so someone will open the door for you.



Front door



Access buzzer on main entry doors. Press silver button on box on right



Slope or steps to access the front door on Moor Street Queensway



Rear door accessible by a few steps...



...or by slope

Flooring:

Outside at the back door there is tarmac. Inside the back door there is a doormat and then laid bricks. The flight of steps is made of laid bricks. This leads up to a carpeted foyer.
Outside the front door is made of laid bricks. Inside the front door is a door mat and a carpeted foyer.
The foyer carpet is tight weave and easy to use mobility items or pushchairs on.



Floor at main door into church



Floor and brick steps from rear door access



Floor in foyer

Kitchen and seating area

In the foyer area there is some seating and a kitchen hatch. This is where tea and coffee will be served after Sunday morning services. There is no access to the kitchen for visitors but please ask if you need something and we will do our best.



Serving area for drinks



Seating area

Toilets

There are 2 sets of toilets. Off the foyer, immediately next to the main front doors are toilets: mens, womens, and a toilet with disabled access, changing facilities for babies and a child's toilet.

Gender Neutral 'toilets for all' are downstairs through the green doors and directly ahead downstairs. There are individual cubicles with a shared handwashing area. There is also a toilet with disabled access and a baby changing area. These toilets are either accessible by stairs from the foyer, or from ground access via an additional door which can be opened on request and for those using rooms 1-7 on that level.

All of the toilets have fast-acting electric hand dryers available. These act quickly but do make some noise. If you want to avoid that noise from others using these, we suggest using the toilet with disabled access as you can choose whether you use it and have that sound or not.

Both toilet areas have PIR lighting which will come on automatically when you enter the area. Both toilet areas have taps which are pressed down to provide an automatic amount of water.



Entrance to foyer toilets



toilet cubicle



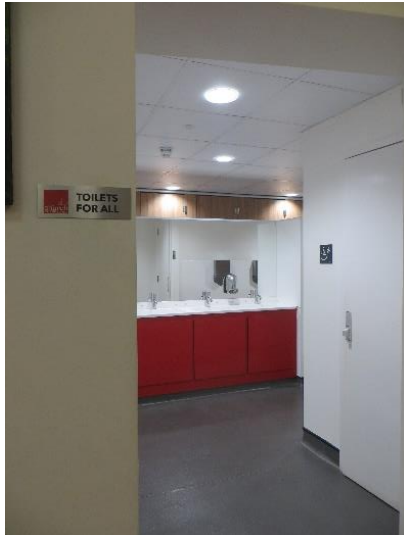
Inside toilet for disability access, child changing, and child-sized toilet



push taps and push soap



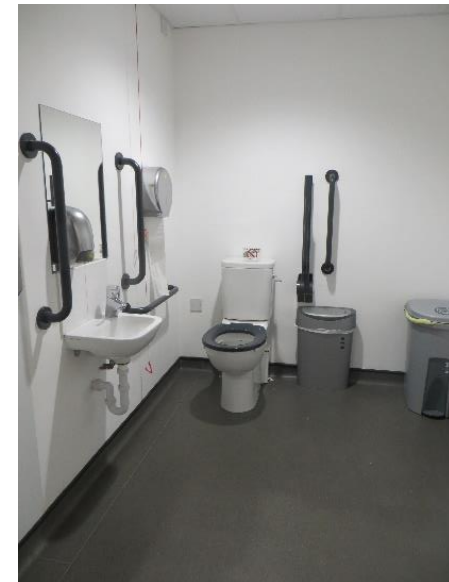
hand drier



Downstairs gender neutral toilets for all...



...with separate cubicles and shared handwash.



Downstairs disabled access and changing facilities.

Children on Sunday mornings.

Children are welcome at Church on Sunday mornings. There is a junior church on some Sundays according to availability of leaders. These leaders are DBS checked and the junior church is in a room near the worship area for easy access. There is a children's area at the back of the worship area which has books, toys, games and craft materials. If you come with children you will usually either be offered the junior church (if it is on that day) or shown this children's area and a selection of activities for your child.

There is a box of puzzles, complex colouring etc available for older children/younger teenagers.

Whilst it is important for everyone to be able to hear in church, do not worry if your child/children make 'usual child noise'. We have a sound system which enables people to hear. If you need something for your child, e.g. water, changing facilities, just ask the stewards who will be at the back of the worship area on Sunday mornings.

At other times in the week, please contact the person leading the meeting/group about bringing a child/children unless you know it is a group for children.



Children's area

<p>Wheelchair users</p>	<p>In all of our meeting rooms, chairs are used. If a room is set up in board room style (with chairs around tables), wheelchair users can sit anywhere and a chair can be moved to enable this.</p> <p>If the room is set up with chairs in rows, wheelchair users can sit at the end of any row as a chair can be moved to give space (in the main church room, (used on Sunday mornings for worship) chairs are in sets of 2 or 3, so a small set of chairs can be moved). Wheelchairs can not be placed in the middle of rows as this is not safe in the event of a fire.</p> <p>Rooms accessible to wheelchair users are: Main Church Room, Quiet Room (from foyer), Lounge and Wiseman Room (back of building), Rooms 1-7 (please request via reception, call 0121 6436151). More information and photos of rooms can be found here: http://carrslane.co.uk/conference-venue-meeting-room-hire-birmingham-2/room-list-2019-20/</p>
<p>Animals/ assistance dogs</p>	<p>The only animals permitted in the building are assistance dogs. If you need water or a bowl of water for your assistance dog, please let us know and we will get one for you. If your assistance dog is in training, please let us know so that we can do our best to meet needs.</p>
<p>Inclusion</p>	<p>We are a diverse, inclusive and affirming Church who love diversity and ask for each to be mutually respecting of differences. People are welcome to be part of church life whatever their gender identity, sexuality, ethnicity, financial situation, neurodiversity, differing abilities, mental health and disability. People are invited to take part in church life in ways which suit their level of commitment, gifts and skills. We want to be fully inclusive but realise that there is always more to learn. If you find you have inclusion needs which are not met, please discuss with ministers or contact them via 0121 643 6151.</p>
<p>Quiet spaces:</p>	<p>There is usually a quiet room which is accessible Monday-Saturday for quiet thought or prayer. It has a sign on the door saying 'room available' or 'room busy' – if it says 'room busy', please respect that person's request for solitude. If it is available, it can be changed to 'busy' if you need some solitude.</p> <p>There will be times when the room is not available and this will be clear on the door sign. It is not available on Sunday mornings.</p> <p>If you need some quiet space during Sunday morning worship, it is possible to go out to the foyer where it is usually quiet.</p>

Touch	The person greeting you may approach to shake your hand – if you feel uncomfortable with this, there is no need to offer your hand.
Hearing loop	The loop system is active only in the main church room. Please ask our staff or on Sundays, the people by the church doors for more information.
Large print books	A large print version of the hymn book is available. Orders of service and notices are also usually available in large print – please request this as you arrive or call ahead if this is a necessity for you: 0121 643 6151.
Braille hymn books	We do not currently have these available. If you need these and are intending to make this your regular church, please discuss with ministers.
Sunday/ Wednesday communion	<p>Communion involves prayers of thanksgiving being shared and then bread and wine is shared. The bread is always gluten free and the wine in small cups is non-alcoholic. We have an ‘open table’ which means that anyone can be part of this. You do not have to already be a committed Christian or a church member.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div data-bbox="331 842 1034 1279" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="322 1289 965 1369" data-label="Caption"> <p>The Lounge is usually used for Wednesday Services and Daily Prayer</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1205 842 1756 1279" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1200 1289 1711 1326" data-label="Caption"> <p>Invitation for Sunday Communion</p> </div> </div>

<p>Sounds in the rooms</p>	<p>In the main church room, there is a pipe organ which is regularly used on Sundays and sometimes at other events, e.g. carol services. The organ is in the balcony, but the sound comes from the far left of the main church room. It has pedals so there can be some very deep bass notes.</p> <p>There is also a piano which is used regularly. This is in the main church room and often the person playing runs between the piano and the organ in the service so do not worry if you see someone up and moving in the service.</p> <p>There is also an electric piano in the Lounge. This is usually only used for Wednesday lunchtime services and is usually not played loudly as this is appropriate for that service and room size.</p> <p>On some Sunday mornings, there is a choir who sing. They are usually on the left of the worship area and usually stand to sing one or two songs/hymns in harmony in a service (usually twice a month).</p> <p>During some Sunday services, additional musicians play. This could be someone due to play the trumpet in the church balcony, or violinists/cellist/clarinetist. If it would be helpful for you to know about this, please ask the person who offers you a hymn book as you enter the church and they will find out for you.</p> <p>The speaker on Sundays usually uses a lapel microphone. There is an additional microphone at the lecturn which is usually on the left at the front. These microphones are also used in conferences. Because they link in to the sound system, this should enable you to hear with the loop.</p> <p>Our Sunday morning worship is led by a different person each week. If you come for several weeks, you may easily start to recognise some of those people as part of the church or our ministers, but we have other visiting preachers too. This means that we cannot entirely predict the content of each service. There is usually an order of service to give a guide as to what will happen next and the number of a hymn that will be sung, for example. Unpredictable noise/drama in the service is unusual, but if that would be a concern for you, please also mention this to the person who gives you a hymn book and they will find out for you so that you have advance information.</p> <p>The heaters in the building are blow air, fan heaters and make some sound when on which is louder when warming up until temperature has been reached at which point they will slow down and become quieter.</p> <p>Daily prayer (Monday -Friday) and Wednesday lunchtime services are usually held in the Dale Lounge. Daily prayer often</p>
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	<p>uses an ipad/similar with small speakers and also invites people to spend time in periods of silence. Wednesday lunchtime services sometimes have a piano played to lead singing and sometimes sing unaccompanied. Loud unexpected noises are unusual in these prayer and worship times, but the noise of the city is all around.</p> <p>Because we are in the city centre, there are lots of sounds, but they generally predictable for our area – e.g. sirens, traffic, people talking as they travel, buses coming and going (and occasionally a steam train arriving at Moor Street Station). Although these are generally not disturbing, you may notice these sounds.</p> <p>The hand driers in the downstairs toilets can be heard in the downstairs foyer as there are no external doors to that set of toilets.</p> <p>The Fire alarm is a very loud siren which can be heard above all other sounds. If it sounds, please leave by a signed fire exit and congregate at the back of the building on the green.</p>
Lighting	<p>This varies between rooms.</p> <p>The main church room, Lounge, Michael Hubbard Room, Bertha Wright and Margaret Rowland rooms, room 1, room 3, have good natural light and may or may not need the electric lights used depending on the daylight.</p> <p>Other rooms have limited natural light and so usually need electric lights on.</p> <p>As above, toilets have PIR lighting which comes on as you access the areas. It will also turn itself off.</p>

If you have questions, please do ask: email: booking@carrslane.co.uk phone: 0121 643 6151

We realise we will need to review this document and add things as questions are asked and needs arise. If there are things you think we should add, please let us know. Thank you.