

# YHA KINGTON

## ACCESS STATEMENT

### **Introduction**

We aim to cater for the needs of all visitors in this 31-bed hostel, a 2-storey converted cottage hospital which is set in the edge of a quiet market town. The following statement is a summary of our provision. If you have any specific questions about access, please call us and we will endeavour to help.

### **Pre-Arrival**

- Hourly bus service to within 500 yards of the hostel from Hereford; other services from Leominster, Knighton & Presteigne (4x a day), and Llandrindod Wells (5x a day). Low-level access is now available on most bus routes.
- The nearest train station is at Leominster (15 miles).
- Ian Wood operates an 'Access' taxi service for wheelchair users; he is available on 01544 267739 or 07977 000741.
- Nearest shop-mobility scheme is situated 15 miles away at Morris Mews, High St, Leominster (01568) 616755. A bus service operates 4x daily.
- The hostel's details can be seen on YHA's website: [www.yha.org.uk](http://www.yha.org.uk)
- You can contact the hostel by phone, fax or e-mail (details below).

### **Arrival & Car Parking Facilities**

- Parking for 7 vehicles is available within the hostel grounds, one of which may be reserved for wheelchair access, with prior notification.
- Please try to provide advance notice if assistance will be needed to move to and from cars.
- A graded ramp with handrail leads up to the front door.
- The centre of the small town is 500 yards from the hostel. There is a pavement and street lighting along this route.

### **Main Entrance & Reception**

- A stone ramp with handrail leads up to the front door.
- Induction loop at Reception.
- Comfortable seating is available in the Reception area.
- The reception desk includes a low level section.
- Payphone available with adjacent seating.
- Emergency phone to connect to a member of staff (on site) at night.

### **Public Areas – General**

- Good colour contrast to floor, walls and doorways throughout the building.
- Well-lit corridors.

- The floor is mostly carpeted, with wood effect hard flooring in the dining room.

### **Public Areas – WCs**

- A WC is situated opposite the lounge, and meets full DDA standards for wheelchair users, with an armrest, and raised toilet seat. An emergency pull cord rings in Managers flat.

### **Public Areas – Dining Room & Lounge**

- Even floor throughout the ground floor, with wide doors between the lounge and dining room.
- Dining Room tables are movable. Chairs are available both with and without armrest.

### **Self-catering kitchen**

- Self-catering kitchen accessible through Reception and open plan dining room.
- Sunk preparation bench and sink for wheelchair access.
- Clear, visible signs (in large font) for advice on equipment use.
- Lever taps fitted.
- 4 gas hobs built in to wooden bench (height 3' 6").

### **Laundry & drying facilities**

- Situated in an out-building at the rear of the hostel, with no steps to impede access.

### **Meeting rooms**

- At present, the dining room doubles up as the hostel's meeting room.

### **Bedrooms – Ground Floor**

- One 5-bedded family room with double bed, and a large, wheel-in en-suite shower (including toilet and low level basin), which meets DDA requirements.
- One other 4-bedded rooms, with its own shower.
- Two bed room with toilet and shower adjacent to room.
- Individual bed lights fitted adjacent to bed head.

### **Bedrooms – First Floor**

- Staircase to 1<sup>st</sup> Floor has 1 flight, of 18 steps. Handrails are fitted on one side (right hand side when going upstairs).
- One 5-bedded room, fully en-suite.
- Three 4-bedded rooms, two of which are en-suite, one has a shower only.

- One 3-bedded room, with shower.
- Individual bed lights fitted adjacent to bed head.

### **Washrooms – Ground Floor**

- A wheel-in toilet (with low-level basin) built to DDA standards is situated next to the 2 bed-room.
- A separate shower unit (non wheel-in) is situated next to the toilet.

### **Washrooms – First Floor**

- In addition to the en-suite facilities, there is also one communal toilet, half way along the corridor.

### **Grounds & Gardens**

- A small garden area is situated next to the car park, which contains two picnic benches. This is on the level, access for which is via a moderately wide gate.
- One 3-seat bench (no armrests) is available in the garden, beside the picnic benches.
- Cycle shed is at the rear of the hostel, along a level concrete path.

### **Games Room**

- A ramped gradient suitable for wheelchairs, leads into the games room, a separate building at the rear of the hostel, which may be reached by concreted path.

### **Additional information**

- Lights in the downstairs corridor, en suites and out buildings are on PIR; they come on automatically.
- No pets or dogs (but service dogs are welcome).
- No smoking.
- Disability awareness courses – as part of the ‘Welcome Host’ scheme – are undertaken by all of our staff.
- A member of staff is available on site, except in the afternoons between 12pm and 5pm. Night cover is provided via an ‘emergency’ button on the payphone.
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms fitted. We ensure that all guests are evacuated in the event of fire or any emergency requiring evacuation.
- Evacuation procedures shown (in large font) in each bedroom on notice board.
- Mobile phone reception is patchy within immediate vicinity (network dependant)
- OS 201 GR 301 568.

## **Contact information**

- Address: YHA Kington, Victoria Rd, Kington, Herefordshire, HR5 3BX.
- Telephone: 01544 232745.
- Fax: 0870 770 6129
- E-mail: [kington@yha.org.uk](mailto:kington@yha.org.uk)
- Hours of operation: Reception open from 8am to 10am (though I'm often around until midday) and from 5pm to 10pm.
- Bus Timetable Enquiries: 0870 608 2608.
- Local Accessible Taxis: Ian Wood 01544 267739 or 07977 000741.

**We welcome your feedback to help us to continue making improvements. Please contact us directly if you have any queries or if you would like to make any comments.**