

Disabled Access to the Wiener Library

The Wiener Library is accessible to all.

There is full physical access to all public areas including ground floor exhibition area, meeting room (The Weldon Room), first floor Reading Room (The Wolfson Reading Room) and the second floor Anna and Ludwig Spiro Room.

Services available for visitors with mobility impairments:

- Scissor Lift from pavement to Main Entrance door level, plus one step, and Lift, serving all four floors
- Accessible lavatory is available in the basement
- In the Reading Room a barrier-free desk is provided for wheelchair users

Services available for visitors with visual impairments:

- Magnifying glasses are available from the 1st floor Reading Room enquiry desk.
- Access for guide dogs is allowed in all areas

Hearing impaired visitors who attend events in the ground floor meeting room (The Weldon Room) benefit from the installed induction loop.

For visitors with mobility, hearing and visual impairments, staff assistance is available.

Barriers for mobility impaired visitors:

- Strong auto closures on doors. Members of staff will provide assistance with these.
- The Reading Room mezzanine is inaccessible for mobility impaired visitors. Library staff are making material that is housed in this area accessible on request.

Emergency facilities available for disabled visitors

For the benefit of hearing impaired visitors there are flashing fire alarm beacons installed in the basement WCs and in the second floor WCs (B.06, B.07, B.08, 2.09, 2.10, 2.11).

Fire evacuation procedures

The lift must not be used in an evacuation and does not work once the alarm is raised.

The evacuation is organised by trained for that purpose staff members.

Protected routes lead from the basement by way of either:

- a route up the internal stairs to ground floor level, through the Ground floor Hallway and Entrance Hall and down the external front stairs;
- A second route leads through Document Store 1 B.03, the front Lightwell and up the external steps, through the Pavement Gate.

Evacuation from the ground floor, the first, second, and third floors takes place by way of the main staircases to ground floor level, through the hallway and entrance hall and down the external front stairs.

Disabled fire evacuation procedures

1. Basement

For the evacuation of members of staff and visitors with mobility impairments the basement escape routes are used with the aid of a manual evacuation chair. The chair is kept in

Basement Hallway B.01, permanently ready for use. It is operated by two persons and members of staff have been designated to this task and trained accordingly.

2. Upper Floors

Evacuation of members of staff and visitors with mobility impairments from the upper floors is assisted by the use of a manual evacuation chair. The chair is kept on the Lobby 2.01 on the second floor, permanently ready for use. It is operated by two persons and members of staff have been designated to this task and trained accordingly.

Refuges

Mobility-impaired visitors and members of staff are escorted by the Floor Fire Wardens responsible for their storey to the nearest refuge. Here disabled people can wait until they no longer impede the evacuation of the non-disabled and they can complete their evacuation to the Assembly Point outside the premises.

Refuges are provided on all storeys of the building for each of the three protected stairways affording egress from each storey, and for the main entrance, i.e. the final exit. These refuges are located in the:

- Basement hallway B.01
- Ground floor entrance hall G.02
- First floor stair lobby 1.01
- Second floor lobby 2.01
- Third floor lobby 3.01

Visitors with mobility impairments or conditions which preclude them from using the evacuation chairs in an emergency are advised to inform the Library prior to their visit. The Library will then provide access by these visitors to its materials in an accessible Reading Room at Birkbeck, University of London.