

CAMBRIDGE MUSEUM OF TECHNOLOGY

The Old Pumping Station, Cheddars Lane, Cambridge, CB5 8LD

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Number 1156685

Access and Accessibility Policy

1. Purpose

This Access Policy explains how the Museum identifies and removes barriers to participation and ensures access to its buildings, collections, interpretation, digital content and services.

This policy applies to visitors, staff, and volunteers who may also require adjustments or support to access the Museum's buildings, services and activities.

2. Statement of Policy

Cambridge Museum of Technology is committed to maximising access for everyone, regardless of ability, age, gender, cultural or social background, sexual orientation, faith, language, location or wealth, by minimising, removing or overcoming barriers that can prevent people from engaging with our buildings, collections, website, social media channels and staff.

Trustees have overall responsibility for access. Day-to-day access improvements and visitor support are the responsibility of the Museum's staff and volunteer team, who are encouraged to identify and report any barriers to access.

3. Aims and Objectives

It is our aim to:

- ensure the Museum meets its obligations under the Equality Act (2010) by doing everything reasonably possible to make the museum accessible to the widest range of people
- build accessibility into everything that we do to develop and improve our services. This commitment is long term, and our aim is to make continuous improvements as our resources and buildings permit. Access considerations will be included in planning, maintenance and development decisions.

4. Access to Site and Collections

The Museum is committed to maximising access by considering the following:

- Physical accessibility – the ability of people with physical disabilities to reach and appreciate every part of the museum. The needs of older people and of people caring for young children are considered as physical access issues.
- Sensory accessibility – whether those with impaired vision or hearing can enjoy and appreciate the museum's building, exhibitions and collection

- Intellectual access – whether people with learning disabilities and additional needs can engage with and enjoy the museum and its exhibitions. We also recognise that people have different learning modes and will provide interpretation in a range of learning styles, encompassing our on-site interpretation, educational resources, website and social media presence.
- Cultural access – the needs of people for whom English is not a first language, or who may have different cultural backgrounds or experiences.
- Emotional and attitudinal access – whether the museum environment and the museum staff are welcoming to visitors from all sections of the community.
- Financial – whether the museum’s admission prices and stock are maintained at an affordable level, providing a range of ticket prices where possible. The Museum will aim to provide concessions and free or reduced-cost entry where possible.

5. Digital access

The Museum aims to ensure its website and digital content follow good accessibility practice, including clear layouts, plain language, alternative text for images, and compatibility with assistive technologies.

6. Intergenerational Access

We will pay due regard to intergenerational equality. The rights of future generations to enjoy access to our present collection are safeguarded by high standards of collection care and where necessary by restrictions on handling, or exposure to light, moisture or other harmful environmental conditions.

7. Opening Hours and Access to Services

The museum is open to the public on weekends. Our aim is to maximise museum opening as far as resources permit, and at times which will best allow us to deliver our public benefit e.g. extended opening during school holidays.

Where possible, the Museum will provide clear information about accessible toilets, rest areas, and quiet spaces.

8. Consultation and review of the Access Policy

We will review the access policy yearly to ensure it is in line with national guidelines and standards. We will actively seek input from local and regional access groups and welcome feedback from our visitors through online surveys and direct communication to ensure we are embedding good access into all our museum activities.

We will publish updated access information on our website so visitors can plan their visit with confidence.

9. Related Policies

This policy should be read alongside the Museum’s Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Policy, which sets out our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment for all visitors, staff and volunteers.

Issues involving safety or welfare of children or adults at risk are addressed in the Museum's Safeguarding Policy.

10. Approval

Vincent Mak

Chair of the Board of Trustees (on behalf of the Board of Trustees)

Date of review*: 4th February 2026

** Previous version was entitled Access Policy Statement*

11. Review

Next review date: February 2027