

Access at the ADC Theatre

Student Participation

If you have any questions about access at the ADC Theatre, please contact access@adctheatre.com or call the Theatre at 01223 359547

Performers

The ADC stage is wheelchair accessible. There is ramped access to the student clubroom and a platform lift to stage. Please make sure that the Production Manager is aware of any wheelchair users needing access to the stage, so that they can ensure the relevant people are available to operate the lift and oversee any necessary evacuation. Wheelchair users also need a Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) in place before they begin activities at the theatre, to make sure that there is an agreed procedure for safely evacuating them without the use of our regular lift, as it isn't rated for fire safety so cannot be used in an emergency.

Email production@adctheatre.com to arrange use of the platform lift and to receive a template PEEP to adapt for your own use.

Stage Managers

The backstage areas of the ADC Theatre are wheelchair accessible. Stage Management is accessible to non-ambulant students, including calling the cues for a show and managing the wing, but please note that parts of the pre-show fire check go through the galleries and boxes, which are only accessible by ladder.

Lighting Design

The lighting desk is usually positioned in the lighting box, which is not accessible to those in wheelchairs or those who are unable to use ladders. This is because, in the event of an emergency evacuation, the lift cannot be used and the emergency escape route from the lighting box requires technicians to ascend one short-medium height ladder and then descend a much larger ladder down to stage level.

However, the lighting desk can be relocated to the wing, in order to be used by a lighting designer who is unable to be in the lighting box for any reason. Please contact Eduardo at technical@adctheatre.com if you have any questions related to this, or if you are a designer for an upcoming show and would like to relocate the desk.

Sound Design

The sound desk is usually positioned in the sound box, which is not accessible to those in wheelchairs or those who are unable to use ladders. This is because, in the event of an emergency evacuation, the lift cannot be used and the emergency escape route from the lighting box requires technicians to ascend one short-medium height ladder and then descend a much larger ladder down to stage level.

However, the sound desk can be relocated to the wing, in order to be used by a non-ambulant sound designer. Please contact Eduardo at technical@adctheatre.com if you have any questions related to this, or if you are a designer for an upcoming show and would like to relocate the desk.

Other Technical Roles

Please note that the counterweights, hems galleries and lighting bridges are only accessible by ladders.

Toilets

The **ADC Theatre** has gender-neutral toilets: one with a cubicle and urinals, and one with only cubicles. There are signs on the doors indicating this.

The **ADC Theatre** has one accessible toilet in the foyer.

Corpus Playroom

We regret that the **Corpus Playroom** is not currently wheelchair accessible. The building and its surroundings provide many challenges which are not easily addressed for a variety of technical and regulatory reasons. The ADC Management Team is working closely with Corpus Christi College to improve the accessibility of the Playroom and hopes to find a solution in the near future.

The **Corpus Playroom** has gender-neutral toilets, with individual cubicles.

The **Corpus Playroom** is fitted with an infra-red audio system designed to help d/Deaf or hard of hearing audience members, performers and technicians.

For Audiences:

Booking Tickets

All of our Box Office staff are trained to handle access bookings and enquiries. If you are booking a wheelchair seat in the ADC auditorium for the first time, please call the Box Office on 01223 300085 or email access@adctheatre.com. We will then alter the permissions of your ADC account so that you can access the wheelchair seats on our website when you book in the future. Complimentary tickets are available for full-time carers.

We currently have space for two wheelchair users, who can be accompanied by up to two full-time carers. The wheelchair spaces are located on the right-hand aisle of the front row.

If you have any access requirements but are not a wheelchair user please contact the Box Office on 01223 300085 or email access@adctheatre.com.

Arriving at the Theatre

When you arrive at the **ADC Theatre**, there are power assisted doors to the Box Office. In the foyer there is a lift which leads up to the bar and auditorium.

Wheelchair users and customers with mobility impairments will be able to use the lift to get to the accessible toilet in the foyer during a show or at the interval.

Hearing Impaired

Both the **ADC Theatre** and **Corpus Playroom** are fitted with an infra-red audio system designed to help deaf and hard of hearing patrons. If you are using the system for the first time, please arrive early and seek advice from our Front of House team.

Assistance Dogs

Assistance dogs are welcome in both of our venues. Please call the Box Office or email the above address when booking to ensure you are seated appropriately.

Emergency Evacuation

In the event of an emergency, the passenger lift cannot be used. The primary method of escape for those unable to walk down the stairs is by use of one of the building's evacuation chairs, which are located at the top of the foyer stairs (for evacuation from the bar), the top of the fire escape stairs (for evacuation from the auditorium), and by the stage door (for evacuation from the stage). The Duty Manager will be trained in use of the evacuation chair and will oversee the safe evacuation of our non-ambulatory guests.

We regret that due to temporary staffing constraints, we will not be able to accommodate guests who will require the use of an evacuation chair in an emergency for our Friday evening performances. Please contact the Box Office on 01223 300085 for more information.

All exits from the auditorium are fitted with handrails for those who require the support of a handrail to negotiate stairs. For those with limited mobility who prefer to make their own way down stairs slowly, or by shuffling down while seated on the steps, we ask for you to wait for the main flow of people to leave the building first. A fire steward will also be able to assist if required.

Those hearing impaired or D/deaf should be accompanied by a companion or should notify a member of staff of the requirement for a buddy system to be put in place to alert them if the fire alarm is operated at any point.