If you require an alternative format email tirion.hughes@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Trinity College was founded in 1555, and, as a result, some of the buildings are fairly old and therefore not fully accessible. However, Trinity is committed to making sure that the college is accessible and welcoming to both disabled students and visitors. Many adjustments to the physical environment have already been put in place, and there are plans for further development to ensure that Trinity is as accessible as possible.

The following is a brief guide to accessibility in Trinity. For more information contact the lodge or one of the disability contacts below, or visit https://www.trinity.ox.ac.uk/support-and-welfare/disabilities/.

Disability Contacts at Trinity:

Claire Parker (Wellbeing Advisor) is the College Disability Lead - claire.parker@trinity.ox.ac.uk
Isabel Lough is the Disability Coordinator - isabel.lough@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Trinity’s plans for the future:

A new building is being constructed which will be completed by summer 2021. This building will provide a large number of new bedrooms, all of which will be accessible, and 6-8 of which will be specified for disabled people. The walls will also be strong enough to allow hoist mechanisms to be built, if necessary. It will contain a new library hall, which will be fully accessible on both levels. The new building will provide step-free access to both the upper and lower floor of the library. The new building has plans for the building of a café, which could provide an informal space for working – this would also be fully accessible. There are plans to remodel areas of the kitchen in order to make the canteen and eating area more accessible and to build a lift to the beer cellar.

Lodge contact details:

Telephone: +44 (0) 1865 279900   Email: lodge@trinity.ox.ac.uk

Entrances to Trinity:

Trinity Lodge - this is the main entrance to the college. It is located on Broad Street and is accessible via ramp access. Trinity has a wheelchair which can be provided when necessary.

Dolphin yard - this opens onto St Giles. The small gate is heavy and requires a high step up, but the big gates can be opened for disabled students by the lodge (via the intercom).

Back gate - this opens onto Parks Road. It is only accessible via a gravel path and through two keypad locked doors, and two steps up to the second door with a further step onto the pavement.

Locations in Trinity:

Accommodation – full information on accessible accommodation can be found in the Trinity Accommodation Accessibility Guide, downloadable on the disability part of Trinity’s website (link above).

Library - Trinity Library is an old building, and access is therefore somewhat limited. It is also involved in the new building works which has further limited accessibility temporarily. There is no level access and space within the library is also narrow particularly in the upper library. However, much of the reading material can be found online, through SOLO, and provisions can be made for disabled students on a case by case basis. Our librarian will be alerted to any specific requirements that disabled students might have by the University Disability Librarian. It may be possible for the librarian to deliver the books, or for a friend to fetch them by using the ‘proxy’ setting, which means that they will be on the account of the student, not the proxy. For severely visually impaired students, an assistant can help scan journal articles and book chapters to use with speech reading software. The Disability Librarian alerts the Trinity Librarian in advance so that they have time to put any provision for larger print etc. in place. There is not currently a hearing loop system in the library. If you have any more specific questions about Trinity Library, please contact our librarian, emma.sillett@trinity.ox.ac.uk who will be happy to help.

Lawns Pavilion – the Lawns Pavilion is a temporary building which is currently functioning as an extra workspace for the library during its renovation. It also has a meeting space, a small kitchen, and can be used for music practice. The building has step-free access via a ramp, although the doors are not motorised and are heavy.

JCR (Junior Common Room) - the JCR is located at the base of staircase 7. It has level access, but there are two fairy heavy doors (one of which is almost always propped open), and no electric door opener.
MCR (Middle Common Room) – the MCR is located at the top of a flight of steep stairs in staircase 2.

Trinity Hall - has level access, but the doors do not have an electric door opener. It is possible for wheelchair users to sit in hall, but the canteen is fairly narrow and therefore may not be accessible to wheelchair users. Trinity Hall is equipped with a hearing loop system.

Trinity JCR Kitchen – this near staircase 3, has level access, but no automatic door. It contains four ovens with hobs, a microwave, grill, and kettle. College may be able to provide a microwave to disabled students who struggle to access hall.

Trinity MCR Kitchen – this is accessible only via outdoor steps to staircase 2.

The Beer Cellar – this is located underground and is currently only accessible via some steep stairs. Low lighting levels.

Chapel – this has level access but no electric doors, although the doors are often propped open for services.

Laundry – this is accessed from the outside at the side of staircase 7 via a heavy door up a small ramp.

Nurse and Doctor’s Office – this is located in staircase 1. It is on the ground floor, but there are 2 steps into the staircase – however, the temporary ramp can be used to allow access. The nurse will be able to come to your room if you cannot access the office. The GP also comes to Trinity on Wednesdays, which means that students wanting to see a GP do not have to travel to the health centre in Summertown.

The Sutro room – is on the first floor of staircase 7 and is used for functions, teaching, and music practice. It is accessible via lift. There is currently no electric door opener, but the door is often propped open.

The Fletcher Room – this is located underground and currently only accessible via some steep stairs in staircase 14.

The Pig and Whistle – this can be used as a bedroom in some circumstances and is also used as a breakout space or for small events. It is accessed by a single stair (although a temporary ramp is available) and a fairly narrow door. There is an accessible bathroom with toilet and bath. This room contains a temporary wheelchair, which can be used upon request.

Working spaces - every bedroom in Trinity is equipped with a desk (riser desks may be available on request). Trinity Library also has desks and spaces for working, with plugs for laptop chargers. The lawns building has a designated work area with desks and plug sockets. Many students also choose to work in external libraries or in a more informal setting, such as cafés. See below for information on out-of-college accessible libraries and cafés.

Teaching spaces – there are a variety of teaching spaces in Trinity. Owing to the age of some Trinity buildings, some of these are inaccessible, but tutors will always move lessons to an accessible room if necessary.

Sports and gyms – Trinity has two gyms. One is at the bottom of a steep flight of stairs under staircase 14 and contains mostly cardio equipment. The other is accessed via dolphin yard and has level access. It is a combination of weights, some cardio equipment, and an open space for other activities. There are several other gyms near Trinity which may be more accessible, and the University Sports Centre is generally accessible, including a swimming pool with a mobility lift (if necessary, Trinity may be able to consider subsidising membership fees to the Oxford University Sports Centre).

Accessible Toilets - there is a disabled toilet on the ground floor, next to staircase 7 accessed from outside, as well as one on the first floor of staircase 7 accessible by lift via the Sutro room, and another in the Lawns Pavilion Building.

Assistance Dog Toileting Area – a concrete spending area is available next to staircase 7.

IT - WiFi access is available across college through eduroam. The IT Technician’s office is down a steep set of stairs in staircase 14 but the technician is contactable via email (alastair.johnson@trinity.ox.ac.uk).

General Accessibility around Oxford

Trinity is centrally located, and there are many restaurants, cafés, pubs, bars and fast food places around. It is also only several minutes away from a large Tesco Metro. Oxford City County Council’s accessible guide to Oxford includes information on accessible restaurants, pubs and bars, shops, leisure and sports facilities, museums, places of worship, banks etc. It also contains useful contacts, such as the Centre for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and wheelchair suppliers and repair service.  https://www.oxford.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1272/accessible_oxford_guide.pdf

Oxford Libraries - there are a great number of libraries in Oxford, including the Bodleian (which is opposite Trinity) and faculty libraries. The accessibility of these can be found on the access guide below, with a more detailed accessibility guide downloadable at https://www.oxfordsu.org/resourcehandler/25b43e4f-6857-49d6-855c-366b60176155/

Oxford University Access Guide – contains information on accessibility of colleges, departments, libraries, sports, student services etc. https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/access/