

# Disability Access Statement

*As at March 2018*



Welcome to St. Leonard's, Clawton. This ancient Grade 1 listed parish church has some Norman features, a tower and arcades in the north and south aisles from the 14th century and 15th-century arches of Polyphant stone. This access statement is aimed at helping you understand any challenges faced by visitors with restricted mobility, sight or hearing.

## **Access from the road**

The church entrance has a small pull-in for cars where visitors can be dropped off, and parking is along the left side of the road facing up the hill. From the pull-in there is a fairly steep slope for approximately 30ft to the gate, with a handrail on the right. The lower surface is not smooth but is less potentially slippery for pedestrians. From the gate a tarmac path with a reasonably good surface runs approximately level to the south porch.



## **External Lighting**

For those attending evening Services during the dark winter months a torch is recommended as there is no lighting on the road outside the church or at the entrance gate. There is a movement-activated floodlight at the north-east corner of the tower facing the entrance gateway and further round the path on the approach to the south porch, where there is an internal light.

## **Internal floor surfaces**

The south porch (right) has a step up (7cm) at the door followed by a 10cm drop to the tiled floor. Otherwise the floor of the nave and aisles is tiled and level.





There are internal steps up to the chancel (15cm then 16cm) as shown on the left. As the church is Grade I listed it is not permissible to put edge-markings on the steps – please ask for assistance if you have impaired vision and may find these steps difficult to see. The minister will be happy to bring the blessed bread and wine of Holy Communion to the seat of anyone who might find difficulty in climbing the chancel step; please let a sidesman know if you would find this helpful.

The base of the tower (from where the bells are rung) has a set of steps.



### **Seating**

The nave of the church has pews but is wide enough to allow a wheelchair to be positioned alongside any row of pews while still leaving room for others to pass by. For members of the congregation who find standing difficult please be assured that when the minister invites the congregation to stand you are welcome to remain seated.

### **Hearing assistance**

The church is not currently fitted with an induction-loop system.

### **Large print assistance**

Large print hymn books and Orders of Service are available on request.

### **Toilet**

There is currently no toilet facility in the church.

*Should you have any queries as to the access to the Church or this statement please contact the Churchwarden or the Vicar.*

**Churchwarden:** Irene Ellis 01409 271371

**Vicar:** Rev Jane Lucas 01409 211205