

Stourbridge Methodist Church

DDA (Disabled Discrimination Act) Policy

1. Policy Statement:

Stourbridge Methodist Church is committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion, and ensuring that all individuals, including those with disabilities, have equal access to our facilities, services, and activities. This policy is designed to comply with the Disabled Discrimination Act (DDA), and to provide a framework for promoting accessibility and preventing discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members, volunteers, contractors, and members of the public who engage with Stourbridge Methodist Church, including its worship, facilities and events.

3. Objectives

- a) **Accessibility:** Stourbridge Methodist Church will take all reasonable steps to ensure that its facilities are accessible to all individuals including those with disabilities. This includes providing accessible entrances, ramps and lifts where necessary, accessible toilets, as well as ensuring that signage and information are presented in formats that are easily accessible to everyone.
- b) **Training:** As part of the Safeguarding training, individuals will receive training, emphasising the importance of treating individuals with disabilities with dignity and respect. Additional training to cover the proper use of any assistive technologies or equipment available in the Church will be made available.
- c) **Communication:** Stourbridge Methodist Church is committed to providing information in accessible formats upon request for individuals with disabilities. This may include large print, braille, or electronic formats.
- d) **Reasonable Adjustments:** The Church will make reasonable adjustments to its policies, practices, or procedures to ensure that individuals with disabilities are not disadvantaged. This may include flexible scheduling, modified communication methods, or other reasonable accommodations.
- e) **Feedback and Complaints:** Stourbridge Methodist Church welcomes feedback on its accessibility. Individuals are encouraged to provide feedback and report any instances of discrimination. Complaints will be taken seriously, investigated promptly, and appropriate action will be taken to address the concerns raised.

4. Implementation

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all members and volunteers associated with Stourbridge Methodist Church. The Health & Safety team will oversee the implementation of this policy and act as a point of contact for any accessibility-related concerns.

5. Review and Updates

This policy is reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure compliance with Disabled Discrimination Act and any related legislation.

6. Contact Information

For questions, concerns, or requests related to this policy, please contact:
Liam Hodgetts <liam@stourbridge.valeofstour.org.uk>