Access Statement

Leeds Beckett aims to make all aspects of its provision as accessible and inclusive as possible by providing a culture and environment in which students, prospective students, visitors and staff can feel comfortable and achieve their full potential. This is in line both with our responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty within the Equality Act (2010) and our institutional strategic aims.

In striving to achieve this, we are committed to the following principles when designing new buildings and implementing refurbishment programmes:

- Focussing on user experience and on the way in which our buildings and facilities within them will be used by people.
- Undertake an Equality Impact Assessment of all plans.
- Working to Building Regulations, Part M: <u>Access to and Use of Buildings</u> and British Standard (BS) 8300 - <u>Design of buildings and their approaches to meet</u> <u>the needs of disabled people - Code of practice</u> as a minimum, and engaging external access consultants to ensure best practice.
- Applying these standards in designing / refurbishing *all* spaces across our campuses, not just teaching spaces.
- Delivering an equal user experience for disabled and non-disabled users wherever possible.
- Providing specific spaces which address equality needs of people with protected characteristics, e.g. Faith spaces, spaces which can be used for pregnancy / maternity / disability related needs, as well as flexible spaces which can be used in a variety of ways, maximise usage and are sustainable, in line with our Strategic Planning Framework.
- Providing accessibility information about our campuses via our web site, prospectus, mobile app and other communication channels.
- Enabling access around our estate and between campuses through effective way-finding information and clear signage.
- Engaging with stakeholders regarding improvements needed / achieved in relation to developing a fully accessible campus.
- Exploring appropriate management solutions where full access is not possible.

