

FSC Castle Head

ACCESS STATEMENT

Introduction

The main building at Castle Head consists of a Georgian family house over 3 floors, a Victorian extension over 2 floors, a 1920's extension over 2 floors and two areas of 1960's extension also over 2 floors. Castle head is located in Cumbria to the south of the Lake District National Park and 1 mile from the coast of Morecambe Bay.

As well as the main building there is a single story classroom block with 4 classrooms, 1 laboratory and a sports hall and it is all set in 40 acres of grounds. Bedrooms range in size from single rooms through to 10-bed dorms. There is an accessible twin bedroom with en-suite shower room on the ground floor and close by there is a twin en-suite carer's room should it be required.

Pre-Arrival

- The nearest rail station is Grange-over-Sands which is 2 miles away.
- There is public transport to the local village of Lindale from both Kendal and Barrow
- Access to the Centre is via a drive with speed bumps.
- You can contact the Centre by phone or e-mail (please see contact information).

Car Parking and Arrival

We have parking on site for cars, minibuses and coaches. Larger vehicles can access the drive and can turn around in the parking area. Initially visitors should come to reception inside the main front door to announce their arrival and will be briefed on what to do next.

Main Entrance & Student Entrance

The main entrance is up several steps. This leads to a tiled floor in the main hall.

Resident groups normally use the student entrance on the ground floor to access the main building and this is via a wide opening door onto a non-slip laminate floor with a gentle slope to the drying room and further access to the ground floor.

Public Areas

All public areas, corridors, stairs and landings are well lit using a combination of natural light and ceiling and wall lights.

The corridors are majority carpet throughout with some vinyl flooring in places, particularly downstairs. Due to the nature of the building, some of the floors are uneven and steps are marked with non-slip nosing. All ground floor areas are readily accessible for people with limited mobility.

Public WCs and washrooms

There are numerous toilets and showers on all floors. There is one accessible toilet, with assistance rail, on the ground floor near the student entrance.

Dining Room

The dining room located on the ground floor with level access and has laminate non-slip flooring. There are tables and straight backed chairs without armrests. All furniture can be moved; please just ask in the reception office if you require assistance.

We are happy to cater for dietary requirements. Please advise us of these well before your arrival.

Bedrooms

Some of the bedrooms have en-suite facilities including shower, wash hand basin and toilet. All other bedrooms have a wash hand basin.

Dormitories are made up of bunk beds and other rooms are either single or twin. All bedrooms are carpeted and well-lit with ceiling lights. Bedding is provided.

In the Georgian part of the building (Wilkinson Building) bedrooms are located on the 2nd and 3rd floors. There is a twin en-suite on each floor as well as one single room and one twin room on the first floor. There are 5 other 8 bed bunk rooms spread over the 2 floors.

In the 1920's built part of the building (Hillfoot Wing) the bedrooms are on the ground floor and first floor. There are 3 twin en-suite rooms on the ground floor as well as four 10 bed rooms and one 4 bed room. On the first floor there are three twin en-suites and one single en-suite with the remaining rooms being mostly 4 bed.

Common Rooms

There are three common rooms – two of which are only accessible by several steps on the first floor with the 3rd being on the ground floor of the Hillfoot wing.

Grounds

The Centre has 2 open lawns, several fields and a steep wooded area to the rear of the main building. There are a number of ropes activities located around the site and a river that runs through the grounds which is used for canoeing and raft building activities

Outside Classroom Block

The Outside Classroom Block is an additional building within the grounds of Castle Head but not directly linked to the main building. It has easy access, is well lit and has two toilets one of which is accessible with handrail.

Additional Information

- We do not permit pets, but assistance dogs are very welcome.
- We do not permit smoking anywhere in the building.
- A member of staff is usually available on site 24 hours a day.
- Emergency lighting and fire alarms are fitted throughout the building. It is the group leaders responsibility to ensure that all visitors are accounted for in case of evacuation. Arrangements for guests needing assistance to evacuate in case of fire should be discussed beforehand.
- Evacuation procedures are displayed in each bedroom.
- Mobile phone coverage is generally poor.
- Wi-Fi internet connection is available to visitors.

Contact Information

Address: FSC Castle Head, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, LA11 6QT Telephone: 015395 38120

Email: enquiries.ch@field-studies-council.org

Web: www.field-studies-council.org/castlehead

Reception is open from 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

We welcome your feedback to help us to continue making improvements. Please contact us directly if you have any queries or comments.