



**ASTLEY HALL**

**ACCESS POLICY  
2016-2019**

# **Astley Hall & Museum Access Policy Statement**

**Date created: November 2012**

**Last updated: September 2016**

**Next review date: September 2019**

## **1. Definition of Access**

### **Astley Hall's definition of Access**

We define 'access' as a process made possible when physical, intellectual, emotional, psychological, cultural, social and financial barriers are removed or reduced as much as practically possible.

## **2. Commitment to Access**

### **Astley Hall's Mission Statement:**

"To make Astley Hall and its collections accessible for inspiration and learning, ensuring it is a great place in Chorley for local people to visit and everyone to enjoy as a tourist attraction."

### **Astley Hall's commitment to Access:**

Astley Hall strives to provide access to its building, collections and events for the widest possible audience. This commitment is embedded in our mission statement (above) and in our Forward Plan 2013 - 17:

- Central to this Forward Plan is the continued preservation of the Hall and its collections while making them as accessible as possible to provide inspiration and learning opportunities for Chorley's communities and tourist visitors. (Forward Plan – Section 3)

## **3. Provision of Access**

- We aim to make the building and facilities as physically accessible as possible and provide a virtual visitor experience for those who find parts inaccessible.
- We aim to provide information on the building and displays in a range of formats to suit different learning styles and abilities.
- We aim to provide a good standard of customer care to ensure all visitors feel welcome.
- We aim to maintain access to the museum and exhibitions free of charge for local residents and people with disabilities and their carers, and to keep events charges as low as possible.
- We aim to make the displayed and stored collections available for research (commensurate to our collections care guidelines).

## **4. Chorley Borough Council - Equality Scheme 2016**

This Access Policy Statement has been developed in line with Chorley Borough Council's (CBC) Equality Scheme, drawn up to fulfil the 2010 Equality Act.

The scheme sets out the steps CBC will be taking over the coming years to proactively promote equality through its roles as a service provider, community leader and employer. It also enables CBC to outline how it will meet the Equality Act 2010 in terms of both the general duties and the specific public sector duties.