Sittingbourne & Kemsley Light Railway Access Statement

This access statement does not contain personal opinions as to our suitability for those with access needs but aims to describe the facilities and services that we offer all our guests/visitors.

Access Statement for Sittingbourne's Steam Railway

Situated in Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne's Steam Railway maintains the history and role of a unique industrial railway used to carry raw materials, finished articles and employees between the various sites of the papermaking industry.

The railway operates over a two mile length of track with public access at Sittingbourne Viaduct Station, Milton Regis (Asda) Halt and Kemsley Down Station (no vehicular access). It is open on Sundays from April to September, Wednesdays in August and other days as published in the timetable available in printed format or on the website.

Kemsley Down station is only accessible by train or from the Saxon Shore long distance footpath. Sittingbourne Viaduct Station has two accesses one via a 20 step flight of stairs and a step free access found adjacent to the Skatepark entrance. Milton Regis (Asda) Halt is accessed by 3 steps, a grassed path and a flight of 12 steps but is currently closed due to vandalism.

Each rake of coaches has at least one vehicle that will admit standard sized wheelchairs. The platform at Sittingbourne is too narrow for ramped access to the coaches.

The café which is situated at Kemsley Down has ramped access. There is also a shop selling a range of Souvenirs at Kemsley which has ramped access but with a 50mm door threshold. Also at Kemsley there is a small exhibits museum and wildlife garden. These are accessed via a gravelled and grassed walkway which does have a short final gradient.

Toilets are available at Sittingbourne where there is a single unisex toilet with disabled facilities. At Kemsley Down Station there is a dedicated disabled toilet with baby changing facility.

Information signage for exhibits and the wildlife garden is at a minimum of 16pt font in a plain type face.

When the railway is open, railway staff are available at Sittingbourne Viaduct and Kemsley Down Stations and also on the train and will give assistance if required.

Please note that we are working on improving the railway's accessibility for all. We will pursue widening the platform at Sittingbourne Viaduct Station to enable ramped access to the coaches.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any queries or require any assistance, please email <u>info@sklr.net</u> or phone 01795424899 (only staffed during opening hours.

SKLR Access statement (rev mar2021)