

Consider mobility needs and flexible options to support equitable access, navigation, and full participation

A suggestion for implementing the strategy
'Design for all from the outset' from the
Guide: [ILEs](#)

Includes:

- Reduce physical barriers
- Future-proof equitable access
- Maintain predictable pathways
- Ease of movement
- Useful resources

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Planning innovative learning environments \(ILEs\)](#)

Strategy: [Design for all from the outset](#)

Suggestion: [Consider mobility needs and flexible options to support equitable access, navigation, and full participation](#)

Date

29 August 2025

Link

inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/planning-innovative-learning-environments-iles/consider-mobility-needs-and-flexible-options-to-support-equitable-access-navigation-and-full-participation

Reduce physical barriers



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

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Future-proof equitable access

Plan for the diverse mobility needs of your learners and your community from the outset.

Key considerations include:

- unisex accessible toilets, positioned around the school for both adults and children
- outdoor play areas designed for students of varying sizes and weights, that can be accessed by students using wheelchairs or other mobility aids
- adjustable working surfaces, such as lab stations, desks, and workbenches, that students can adjust to the height required
- an area with no curbing for pick-up and drop-off
- vertical access to all areas of the school, supported by ramps and if needed, lifts
- motion-sensitive main entrance doors
- a low front desk in the reception area where children and people with wheelchairs can easily be seen and welcomed
- corridors and doorways that are wide enough for wheelchair users
- height of windows and windows in doors, enabling wheelchair users to see through.

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Maintain predictable pathways



Source:

Sarah Martin

<http://sarahmartin74.blogspot.co.nz/2011/06/modern-learning-environments-some.html>

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Ease of movement



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Useful resources



How physical disabilities can influence learning

Read time: 1 min

A summary of the challenges students with physical disabilities experience at school, and an outline of teaching opportunities to support learning.

[Download](#) PDF (696 KB)

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