

What is Inclusive Design?

The UK Government has described inclusive design as "a process that ensures that all buildings, places and spaces can be easily and comfortably accessed and used by everyone."

The minimum requirement of the Building Regulations is that buildings are accessible and usable to every person, regardless of their age, gender or disability.

The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment have set out five principles to follow.

Inclusive design:

- Places people at the heart of the design process.
- Acknowledges diversity and difference.
- Offers choice where a single design solution cannot accommodate all users.
- Provides for flexibility in use.
- Provides buildings and environments that are convenient and enjoyable to use for everyone.

We will need to apply these principles from the very outset of our projects, challenge our normal practices and engage with stakeholders and users.