



Accessibility at Now Northwich 2019

Now Northwich 2019, Cheshire's FREE International Dance and Street Arts Festival for all the family will take place on Saturday 5th October. This year, we have placed greater emphasis on ensuring that the event is more accessible to everyone, and we have been working hard to make sure ALL visitors enjoy their day and encounter as few challenges as possible.

What we have done so far can be found below.

After the event, we would love to hear your feedback – this will help us to improve in time for next year's event. You can contact us at hello@cheshiredance.org

Please note: we are a relatively small team but we hope to add to the below for 2020.

Support and Assistance:

A team of Stewards (dressed in high viz jackets) will be available throughout the festival to offer help/guidance, as well as First Aiders and Security. Simply ask for help if you need it.

Signage:

A clear map with performance locations can be found on the Now Northwich Programmes. These will be distributed throughout Northwich and will also be available on the day. The programme and map can also be viewed and downloaded from the [Now Northwich](#) and [Cheshire Dance](#) websites.

Parking:

There will be space for 1,500 cars to park at Verdin Park, which is accessed via Winnington Lane.

Accessible parking spaces can be found at Barons Quay (ASDA) car park – CW9 5DJ, Chester Way/Brockhurst Street (Memorial Hall) – CW9 5QJ, Crum Hill (Victoria Club) – CW9 5JD and Central Palace Drive (Iceland).

Parking Charges May Apply.

Makaton:

Northwich town is Makaton-Friendly –and so is Now Northwich! Various members of our team including our volunteers, have received basic Makaton training (these individuals will be wearing Makaton-Friendly badges), and directional signage with key information in Makaton will be displayed around the town throughout the event.

Many Northwich business have also undertaken Makaton training with Cheshire Down's Syndrome Support Group and are happy to provide assistance if needed. Simply look for a "Makaton-Friendly" sticker in shop fronts. A list of Makaton-Friendly businesses near to the event location can be found below.

Quiet Zone:

Those who wish to take a moment away from the hustle and bustle of the festival can find a “Quiet Zone” at The Salvation Army on Tabley Street (close to Sainsbury’s car park). A dedicated “quiet” space has been allocated within the Church, which will have extended opening hours on the day until 5pm. A disabled toilet can also be found on the premises.

Babies and Young Children:

The National Childbirth Trust (Mid-Cheshire Branch) will provide baby changing and feeding facilities at this year’s festival. These facilities can be found within the Family Zone, located in the new Town Park between H&M and the river.

Changing Places

A Changing Place facility can be found at BRIO Leisure (Memorial Court). Visitors to Now Northwich are very welcome to use this facility.

Wheelchairs:

The route to all performances is wheelchair accessible. Assistance can be requested from our Stewards – simply ask for help if you need it.

Makaton-Friendly Businesses around (or near) Northwich Town Centre:

- CDSSG
- Northwich Library
- Radio Northwich
- Witton Street Dental Practice
- House of Quirk
- Bella Boutique
- Abda Coffee Shop
- Kanya
- Rotary of Vale Royal
- Making Space
- CRS Consultants
- Cheshire Centre for Independent Living
- Professional Eyes
- Weaver Hall Museum
- Crafty Stiches
- Snow Angels

Still have some queries or concerns? Ask us your questions in advance by emailing suzi@cheshiredance.org or calling **01606 861 770**. We look forward to welcoming you to the festival and to working our hardest to ensure [Now Northwich 2019](#) is more accessible to everyone.

With special thanks to Cheshire Down’s Syndrome Support Group, The Salvation Army, Mid-Cheshire National Childbirth Trust, volunteers and partners of Cheshire Dance and Northwich Town Council.

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