

A COMMITMENT
TO ACTION:
ACCESS, INCLUSIVITY
AND PROGRESS
TOWARDS EQUITY



At MIMA we commission, collect and re-think contemporary art and creativity. We work with many constituents and communities to build change towards an open and equitable future.

This document outlines detailed information about access at MIMA.

ACCESS STATEMENT

MIMA is driven by a commitment to equity, diversity and access. We commission and exhibit ambitious creative programmes and connect with diverse audiences.

Diversity underpins our work and is considered at every level. We focus on excellent standards of inclusion, representation in relation to socio-economic, race, gender, LGBTQIA+ and disability equality representation across our programme in our collection development and exhibition programmes.

We work with many organisations, partners, artists, friends, and critical friends who inform our work. We welcome feedback, so if you would like to tell us about your experience or make a suggestion, please contact MIMA reception in person, phone 01642 931232, or email MIMA@tees.ac.uk

OUR AIMS

We work towards openness and equity by:

- Promoting equality and diversity in everything that we do
- Challenging and opposing discrimination
- Platforming work by diverse artists
- Developing work with diverse groups
- Welcoming diverse audiences
- Providing depth of engagement for everyone with whom we work
- Working with care and responsibility for our environments
- Providing responsive and accessible services.

Our work is informed by the social model of disability. The social model, developed by disabled people, focuses on barriers to disabled people being created by society, for example the built environment and people's attitudes.

We expect all visitors to be treated with respect at MIMA. Please inform a staff member if you experience discrimination or are concerned about anyone behaving in a discriminatory manner.

ALL ABOUT THE MIMA BUILDING AND YOUR VISIT

Finding us and opening hours

Our address:

Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, Centre Square, Middlesbrough, TS1 2AZ

MIMA Opening Times

Monday	Closed
Tuesday – Saturday	10:00–16:30
Sunday	12:00–16:00

MIMA Kitchen Opening Times

Monday – Friday	09:00 – 16:00
Saturday	10:00 – 16:00
Sunday	12:00 – 16:00 (reduced menu of drinks and cakes)

Last orders for food are taken at 15:00.

Parking

There is a car park at the rear of MIMA. Five bays are allocated for disabled visitors and parking is free for Blue Badge holders.

MIMA Building

The entrance to MIMA is on the ground floor. The ground floor includes a large public space called 'the atrium', MIMA Shop, the welcome desk, MIMA Kitchen (our café), toilet facilities and access to the MIMA Garden.

MIMA's first, second and third floors can be accessed via two public lifts and a large staircase.

MIMA's first floor has a small display space where we show artworks from the Middlesbrough Collection. The second floor has another small presentation of collection pieces, a large gallery where the collection is displayed and two event spaces: the Studio and the Study Centre. There are public toilets on this floor. MIMA's third floor has a publicly accessible collection store where the ceramics and jewellery collection are stored in tall cabinets, and an outdoor viewing platform.

MIMA Shop

The MIMA Shop offers a unique product range sourced from local and national makers, designers and artists. Items include jewellery, homeware, greetings cards, stationery and books, as well as design-led children's gifts and pocket money toys. We support emerging talent in the North East and feature social enterprise products at affordable prices. We stock products featuring Teesside local landmarks, including prints, mugs, tote bags, tea towels and cards. We aim to stock products that are ethically and sustainably produced.

The shop has a lowered counter. There is space in the display aisles for wheelchair users. Everything has a price label on it. Payments can be made with card or cash. Staff will assist with further information or in reaching items from higher shelves.

MIMA Kitchen

You can buy food and drinks from the café to enjoy in the café in or to take away. The team will take your order at the till and will need to know which table you are sitting at.

The MIMA Kitchen has a lowered counter and a range of different chairs as well as spaces for wheelchairs. The floor is level and spaces between tables are wheelchair accessible. Allergen information is available for all dishes. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options are available. High chairs are also available.

The MIMA Kitchen is often busy at lunchtime and it is a noisy environment, with music and a coffee machine.

Toilet facilities

Toilets are open during MIMA's opening times and are available for visitors to MIMA and the MIMA Kitchen.

MIMA has male and female toilet facilities and single all-gender, accessible cubicle toilets. These are located on the ground and second floors.

Baby changing facilities are located on the ground floor and second floor accessible toilets.

We are proud to support period dignity at MIMA. You can find free sanitary products for visitors who menstruate in our ground floor accessible toilet and female toilet facilities.

Quieter times to visit

Generally, between 10:00-11:00 and 15:00-16:30 are quieter times to visit. MIMA is normally quieter on Sundays (12.00-16.00).

If it is important to you to visit at a quieter time, please call ahead to ensure that there are no events taking place within MIMA or on the public square outside.

Sounds throughout the building

Music is played throughout the building.

The atrium has high ceilings, which can create an echo.

There may be sounds from the café which carry across the atrium, particularly at lunch time. Some exhibitions may include audio elements.

Children's ear defenders are available to borrow from the welcome desk. Please ask a member of staff for assistance.

Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding is welcome in all spaces at MIMA.

Baby changing, highchairs and buggies

Baby changing facilities are located on the ground floor and second floor accessible toilets.

Buggy parking is available. Please ask a member of staff for information.

Highchairs are available in the MIMA Kitchen.

Dementia Friendly Visits

MIMA is registered with the Dementia Friendly Middlesbrough project and is committed to being dementia friendly. MIMA's team have Dementia Friendly training.

Assistance Animals

Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs and Assistance Dogs are welcome at MIMA. Please refer to Teesside University's policy on Animals on Campus:

<https://www.tees.ac.uk/docs/docrepo/Health%20and%20Safety/Animals%20On%20Campus%20Policy.docx>

Hearing Loops

There are two Hearing Loops: one at the welcome desk and MIMA Shop counter, and one in the MIMA Kitchen.

Audio Description, Braille and Large Print

Large print guides are available for our exhibitions. Some exhibitions have scannable QR codes to access an audio reading of exhibition information.

There is braille on the buttons inside the lifts but we generally don't use braille in signage or exhibition interpretation.

All glass doors and windows are fitted with contrast markings.

Spaces are lit with natural and artificial light. This can vary depending on the exhibition.

If you experience light sensitivity and would like to discuss this with us, please call ahead of your visit.

Audio Descriptive Interpretation

We offer scheduled audio descriptive tours (advertised on our website) and some audio interpretation for exhibitions.

British Sign Language (BSL) Interpretation

We are pleased to arrange BSL interpretation of events when we know this will be used, so if you require BSL for an event please contact us. We are working to develop BSL tours.

Subtitles, captions and transcripts

We aim to have subtitles and transcripts available for all films shown in MIMA

Seating and availability of wheelchairs

Seating is available on the ground floor.

MIMA is part of Middlesbrough Council's Please Have A Seat Campaign. For more information, please visit: <https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/social-care-and-wellbeing/older-people/please-have-seat-campaign>

We have three foldable wheelchairs, including one self-propelled wheelchair, which are available to borrow. Please ask a member of staff for assistance or call us ahead of your visit.

First Aiders and Medical Emergencies

There is always a First Aid trained member of staff on site. We have a defibrillator, which is located at the welcome desk.

If you or someone in your party has a medical condition which sometimes causes you to have a medical emergency, please follow your usual medical procedures.

If you need to call an ambulance, please alert MIMA staff as soon as possible and when safe to do so.

Access and Fire Exits

MIMA has various exit routes that can be used to exit the building in the event of an emergency.

Fire exits are clearly marked by green running man signs.

Our Front of House team are trained Fire Wardens and will ensure all visitors leave the building safely in the event of an emergency.

Lifts will not operate during fire evacuation. Please do not attempt to get into a lift.

Disabled fire refuge points are located on each floor and they can be accessed at the end of each toilet corridor.

Many members of staff are trained in the use of Evac-Chairs.

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT

To find out about other arts and cultural venues in Middlesbrough and for up to date travel information, visit <https://www.wearemiddlesbrough.com/things-to-do/arts-museums-things-to-do/mima/>

POLICIES

Teesside University Safeguarding Policy:

https://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/about/public_information/safeguarding.cfm

Teesside University Data Protection Policy:

https://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/about/information_governance/privacy.cfm

Teesside University Animals on Campus Policy:

<https://www.tees.ac.uk/docs/docrepo/Health%20and%20Safety/Animals%20On%20Campus%20Policy.docx>

For information about our online Cookie Policy and Privacy Policy please visit <https://mima.art/privacy-policy>

Visit www.mima.art to find out about our exhibitions and public programme.