## Wheelchair Access

## You need

Some places are not "user-friendly". Designers of new buildings need to consider the needs of people who will use them.

## Activity

Michelle is visiting her new school to work out the best routes for her wheelchair.

a. Discuss with some classmates how wheelchair-friendly your school is.

Which areas could be a challenge for someone in a wheelchair?
b. On a map of your school, mark suitable wheelchair routes from:
i. the entrance of the school to your classroom
ii. your classroom to the school hall
iii. your classroom to the playground
iv. your classroom to the school office.
c. Decide whether these routes are suitable for a rainy day. If not, can you find alternative routes?

Michelle's wheelchair is 600 mm wide. The recommended diameter of a turning space for a wheelchair is 1500 mm . With a classmate:
a. Check whether there is enough space in your classroom for a person in a wheelchair to move around it.
b. Decide how to check the space needed for turning.
c. Use your method to test 3 different spaces around the school. Report your findings to the class.


