



Healthy Campus Case Study



HEA

An tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas
The Higher Education Authority

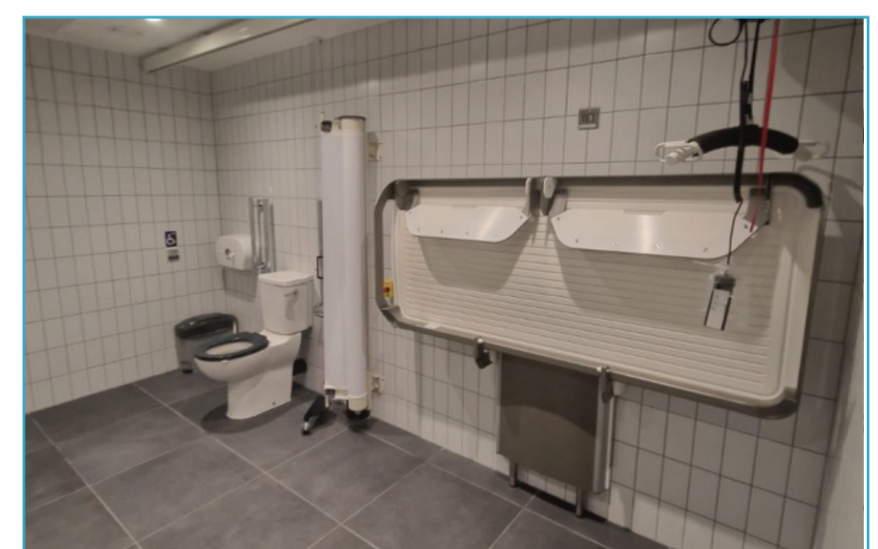
Changing Place at RCSI

Institution/ Organisation
RCSI
Who leads/ led the project?
Collette Power, Estate & Support Services Department
Date and timeframe
Official opening pending. Awaiting final registration with Changing Places Ireland
Project Rationale
The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland is committed to the provision of a centrally located Changing Places toilet at 118 St Stephen's Green. This facility will not only meet statutory planning requirements but will also meaningfully enhance accessibility across the city-centre campus and support the delivery of inclusive, dignified amenities in the heart of Dublin.



Project Overview/ Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provision of a Changing Places facility forms part of the overall development of the new seven-storey, c.13,000 sq.m building at 118 St Stephen's Green, developed by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland as a key component of its city-centre campus. The building accommodates students, staff, and researchers and has been designed to support a modern, inclusive academic environment. From the outset, the project design team placed a strong emphasis on Universal Design principles, ensuring that accessibility and inclusivity are embedded throughout the building. This approach is reflected in the incorporation of key provisions such as the Changing Places facility, alongside additional supports including expressing rooms and dedicated mindfulness spaces. A Changing Places toilet is a specialist accessible sanitary facility designed to meet the needs of people with a range of disabilities who may require
<p>assistance. It typically includes a height-adjustable adult-sized changing bench, ceiling-mounted hoist system, accessible toilet, washbasin, all within a layout that allows sufficient space for carers and safe manoeuvring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facility is located at Level -1 within 118 St Stephen's Green and represents one of the most centrally located Changing Places toilets in Dublin. It will be available seven days a week from 07:00 to 22:00, with limited exceptions (e.g. Christmas Day). While situated within a building that also houses the Humanarium exhibition space and café. The project is currently in the final stages of registration with Changing Places Ireland. Upon completion of this process, the facility will be formally included on the national register, followed by an official opening.

Key Learning Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early integration of Universal Design: Embedding accessibility and Universal Design principles from the outset of the project were critical to ensuring the facility could be delivered effectively without retrofitting or compromising. Value of stakeholder engagement: Collaboration with various groups has been essential in shaping the design, functionality, and promotion of the facility, ensuring it responds to real and practical needs. Importance of central location: Locating the facility within a highly accessible, city-centre setting enhances its usability and impact. Operational considerations: Planning for extended opening hours, clear access arrangements, and integration within overall building management is key. Awareness and visibility: Proactive communication and partnerships with local organisations are essential to ensure that potential users know the facility exists and how to access it. Beyond compliance: The project demonstrates the added value of going beyond minimum compliance to deliver meaningful, dignity-led accessibility outcomes.



Limerick Framework for Action	Whole Campus Approach	Type of Evaluation
Partnership	Campus Environment (Facilities & Services) (Pillar 2)	Summative Evaluation

