



About the Venue

Sherwood Observatory, located near Sutton-in-Ashfield Nottinghamshire, is a registered charity with a goal of promoting and advancing the interest and education of the public in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

As part of an exciting large scale transformation, Sherwood Observatory has turned a disused Victorian reservoir into a state-of-the-art planetarium and science discovery centre.

With a cutting-edge science discovery centre, interactive exhibits, a domed theatre, and a café, the observatory is becoming a key venue for schools, families, and the wider community.

The Challenge

Opening up the universe to everyone

As part of this inclusive new-build project, the team at Sherwood Observatory were determined to ensure that every visitor, regardless of their needs, could enjoy the full experience. That meant going beyond basic accessibility and incorporating a fully compliant 12sq.m Changing Places toilet facility.

Changing Places toilets are essential for people with profound and multiple disabilities. They provide space, dignity, and safety, elements that standard accessible toilets often lack. Without these facilities, many families are often forced to cut visits short or avoid them altogether. For Sherwood Observatory, this wasn't acceptable. They wanted to ensure their centre could welcome everyone.

The team at Sherwood Observatory began researching options early in the project. They needed a partner who could handle everything from room layout and design, to providing all the required specialist equipment, whilst also being on hand with expert advice and support along the way. Multicare Medical were brought in to lead the specification and installation, ensuring the facility met the highest standards of Changing Places compliance, safety, and usability.



We're really pleased with the new accessible facility and the result speaks for itself



Solution Highlights

- Site survey and suitability assessment
- Full room design and equipment layout
- Pre installation preparation with appointed contractor
- Supply and installation of all specialist and ancillary equipment
- Official Changing Places registration support



CASE STUDY

SHERWOOD OBSERVATORY

CHANGING PLACES TOILET FACILITY



The Result

A space that's out of this world for everyone

Working closely with the Sherwood Observatory team, and main contractor G F Tomlinson, Multicare provided a full design, supply, and installation service. This included a comprehensive site survey, bespoke room design, and close collaboration with G F Tomlinson to ensure smooth efficient, and speedy installation.

The room was then fully equipped with high-quality specialist equipment and ancillary items, and registered as a Changing Places facility on the official map.

"Working with Multicare was a brilliant experience from start to finish," says Tony Booth, Centre Manager.

Installed equipment includes an adult-size changing bench, H-frame ceiling hoist, height-adjustable wash basin, DocM toilet, privacy screen, and a full range of ancillary items. Every feature was chosen to ensure safety, dignity, and ease of use for both users and carers.

"The team were professional, knowledgeable, and incredibly supportive throughout the entire process. From planning through to installation, we felt completely confident in their expertise."

"We're really pleased with the new accessible facility and the result speaks for itself with visitors describing the Changing Places room as the best they've ever used. A clear testament to the quality of design and installation." Tony continued.

For Sherwood Observatory, this new facility is more than just a toilet, it's a vital part of their commitment to inclusion. Families who may have once been excluded from visiting, now feel welcome, supported, and able to fully enjoy the Observatory's new planetarium and science centre.

The Multicare team were professional, knowledgeable, and incredibly supportive throughout the entire process



Equipment Provided

- Likorall 242 H frame ceiling hoist
- Ropox Standardline height adjustable wash basin with TMV3 taps
- Ropox 2100mm adjustable wall mounted changing bench
- Wall mounted folding privacy screen
- Peninsular DocM toilet
- TMV3 Shower & all ancillary items



Plan your visit: www.sherwood-observatory.org.uk