## 18. Internal ramps, steps and stairs

### Internal ramps

18.1 Is a ramp provided where change in level is less than 300mm? [ ]

18.2 Is a ramp accompanied by steps where the rise is greater than 300mm? [ ]

18.3 Is the ramp easy to identify or clearly signed? [ ]

18.4 Are ramp length and gradient suitable? [ ]
   - Is the overall length of ramp and total rise acceptable?
   - Is it wide enough along the full length of ramp slope and landings?
   - Is the surface width of the ramp not less than 1,500mm clear?
   - Are there wider ramps for two wheelchair users to pass, at least 1,800mm?
   - Do supplementary handrails to divide wide ramps maintain a surface width of 1,500mm for each channel?

18.5 Are the top and bottom landings of adequate size and clear of door swings? [ ]
   - Are intermediate landings at regular intervals and of sufficient length?
   - Are larger landings provided where it is not possible to see from one end of the ramp to another?

18.6 Is there edge protection to any open side of ramp or landing? [ ]
   - Is it visually contrasting with the ramp and landing surface?

18.7 Is there a suitable slip-resistant surface? [ ]
   - Is slip resistance maintained if the ramp is at risk of getting wet?

18.8 Does the slope surface visually contrast with the landings? [ ]

18.9 Is there adequate and even level of illumination to the full length of the ramp? [ ]
   - Are light fittings selected and positioned to avoid glare?
18.10 Are portable ramps available in existing buildings where no alternative means of access is possible? Do they include:
   - suitable width
   - upturned edges
   - slip-resistant surface
   - storage in a nearby accessible location when not in use?

See also *Handrails* (checklist 8)

### Internal steps and stairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>18.11</th>
<th>Are non-enclosed steps and stairs positioned away from main circulation routes?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Is a deliberate change in direction required to access steps and stairs?</td>
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| 18.12 | Do steps accompany a ramp where the rise is greater than 300mm?               |

| 18.13 | Are single, isolated steps avoided?                                          |

| 18.14 | Are steps identifiable from the circulation route or are they clearly signed?|

| 18.15 | Are there consistent step dimensions throughout a flight and to consecutive flights? |

| 18.16 | Are step risers and goings within acceptable limits?                        |

| 18.17 | Is the total rise of the flight suitable?                                    |

| 18.18 | Does a linear stair flight have straight steps?                              |
|       | • Are tapered and curved steps and flights avoided?                        |

| 18.19 | Is the unobstructed width adequate?                                        |
|       | • Are steps wider than 2m between handrails divided into channels?       |

| 18.20 | Are intermediate landings long enough and clear of door swings?            |
18.21 Is there a suitable slip-resistant surface?
   • Is slip resistance maintained if steps are at risk of getting wet?
18.22 Do nosings effectively highlight step edges?
18.23 Is the step profile suitable?
   • Are chamfered and profiled nosings designed to minimise the risk of tripping?
   • Are open risers avoided?
18.24 Does the surface finish to steps contrast visually with landing surfaces?
18.25 Is there an adequate and even level of illumination to the full length of the step flight and landings?
   • Are light fittings selected and positioned to avoid glare?

See also Handrails (checklist 8)

**General observations:**