



# Teaching and Learning: Student Disability Policy

**Created:**  
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the student's condition appears to constitute a disability. This does not preclude requesting medical evidence for specific purposes, for example deferral requests.

3.5 Many students who share information with the university which suggests they may be disabled will never have considered the label 'disabled' applying to them. Their rights under the EA are not dependent on the student recognising their condition as constituting a disability

3.6 A student may share information about a health condition by stating for example that they are depressed, this may well constitute a declaration of a disability under the EA and it is unlikely that



having occurred and the reasons for this conclusion. Particular attention should be given to this requirement in respect of course validation / re-validation and periodic reviews.

### Individual Reasonable adjustments

5.1 When a student declares a disability at application stage they will be contacted by Student Welfare and consideration given to what if any specific adjustments are required. This may lead to the provision of specific support, or recommendations to the course team, in the form of a Learning Support Agreement about adjustments which need to be considered within the course.

5.2 When a student declares a disability or their engagement with the course suggests the possibility that the student may have an unidentified disability referral should be made to the Disability Advice and Support Team (DAS) or 2 (he)10 ( )10 hat the se4 (hou)16 (d be)1 (e)10MC /P <n/.o6C / ae6 (d li)6 (t)2 (hli)6 (n(c)4 (l))TJ -0.034 Tc -0.052 Tw80.08 0 Td [u]-s10MC(i).1 (o30 (n)-7 (T

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6.3 DMU may elect to provide diagnostic services in relation to specific conditions such as Specific Learning Differences and Autism. It may choose to provide these services for free, at a subsidised rate or at full cost to the student. Where DMU elects to provide such services this does not constitute a legal obligation nor set a precedent that it should provide equivalent services in relation to other conditions.

6.4 DMU has a general duty of care in relation to its students which includes adherence to good health and safety practice and where specific risk issues are identified following appropriate policies including the SAR policy and the Safeguarding Policy. This duty is however limited, the primary responsibility for the management of ongoing health conditions, or risks which might be associated with those conditions, remains under the jurisdiction of statutory agencies such as the NHS, local Safeguarding Boards and the police.

6.5 The Disabled Student Allowances system continues to offer funding for specialist support, for example a mentor. DMU is not responsible for providing such support if a student has chosen not to apply for DSA.

6.6 DSA provides funds for additional expenses incurred by students for support which goes beyond 'reasonable adjustments'.

6.7 International students and other students who are not entitled to claim DSA are still entitled to expect 'reasonable adjustments' to be put in place, but this does not require DMU to fund support to the same level as would be available to students who are entitled to claim DSA.

### **Disability Support Appeals Process (DSAP)**

7.1 The purpose of the DSAP process is to provide a speedy resolution to any concerns which may arise, and prevent significant disadvantage occurring. It is therefore imperative that students raise any concerns through this process as close to the point at which they arise as is practicable.

7.2 In the event that a student raises a concern which is of longstanding significance, the focus will be on improving future practice. Requests for consideration of repeat periods of studies or similar measures will only be considered as part of this process if there were genuine and exceptional circumstances why the student could not have raised their concern at an earlier point.

7.3 In the event that the student is dissatisfied with the nature or level of adjustments which DMU has provided or believes that there has been a failure to make a reasonable adjustment they should first contact their Programme Leader or Personal Tutor to discuss the matter and see if the issue can be resolved at a local level. DAS and / or the MHIT should be consulted by the Programme Leader or Personal Tutor, where necessary, at this stage. A decision at this stage should normally be reached within ten working days.

7.4 If the student is still not satisfied then they should as soon as is practicable, and normally within ten working days, formally appeal the decision, in writing, to the Student Appeals & Conduct Officer (SACO) who will review the decision and respond accordingly to the student. The SACO may refer a case to a panel (see below) hearing if they believe the complexity of the case warrants a panel decision.

