Disabled Students Helpline: Supporting disabled students through information and advice

Presented by Rundip Thind
Disabled Students Helpline

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Phone line hours: 11am-1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays
Publications

- [www.disabilityrightsuk.org/how-we-can-help/benefits-information/factsheets/education-factsheets](http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/how-we-can-help/benefits-information/factsheets/education-factsheets)
Student Story – Mental Health condition

Depression and severe anxiety
Fatigue, difficulties with concentration and focus. Unable to function in the morning as a result of prescribed medication. Taking notes in lectures is challenging. Exams and presentations cause overwhelming levels of anxiety, stress. Sometimes feels like he can't engage/face people.
Adjustments

• Access to mentoring support
• Changes to presentation assessment
• Changes to exam conditions – extra time, rest breaks, separate room, scheduling adjustments
• Flexibility in attendance
• Computer equipment to enable study at home
• Deadline extension as and when needed
• Extension on library loans
• Support from welfare and counselling staff
Advice summary

Areas covered:
• Discussed reasons why may choose to inform provider
• What DSA is how to apply and what the process involves
• EA duty on providers to make reasonable adjustment
• Suggestions of adjustments to meet disability related study needs
Student Story – Physical Impairment

Osteoarthritis affecting knees, ankles and hands.
Fibromyalgia.
Planning to start Access to HE course.
Pain in body. Attends a number of hospital appointments. Difficulties getting around and climbing stairs and carrying heavy bags.
Stiffness if sits in one place for too long. Writing and typing can be difficult. Fatigued due to chronic pain and disturbed sleep which reduces concentration.
Adjustments

- Flexibility with attendance
- Extra time to move between lessons
- Lessons in downstairs classrooms
- Lifts
- Ground floor locker for text books

- Two sets of books – one for home and one for college.
- Late pass and lift pass
- Ability to move around freely in class.
- Assistive technology – software and equipment.
Advice summary

Areas covered:
• Funding for fees and course related costs
• Income for living costs
• Suggestions of adjustments to meet disability related study needs
Thank you