

Student Support Service

Supporting students with vision
impairment to enter into and to get the
most out of post 16 education



Who we are

TPT is a national charity supporting blind and partially sighted people to live the life they want to lead

We have three focuses:

- **Education**
- **Employment**
- **Engagement**



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What is the student support service

- Our service is there to support students with vision impairment aged 16+ who are in or looking to enter Further or Higher Education.
- It is for students, their families and professionals



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Low incidence disability

Childhood vision impairment is a low incidence disability. Based on a WHO international classification only two in every 1,000 (0.2 per cent) of children and young people aged to 24 have a vision impairment – are blind or partially sighted.

Why we are here

Pupils with VI as their primary SEN are the highest attaining of the SEN groups, however they are significantly behind their peers in terms of academic attainment:

At Key Stage 2, 46% of pupils with VI as their primary SEN in state funded schools achieved the expected, or above the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to 70% of all pupils. At the end of Key Stage 4, 48.9% of students with VI as their primary SEN gained GCSE grade 4/C or above in English and Maths in 2016/17 compared to 63.9% of all pupils

Our offer

- Online resources ([6 steps into HE](#), [DSA information](#), [budgeting](#))
- Advice, guidance and advocacy ([support line](#), case work)
- Events ([‘Get university ready’](#), [webinars on DSA](#))
- Networks ([Facebook group](#))
- Policy and influencing ([campaigning to improve access to HE and DSA](#))
- Sharing of best practice ([covid-19 guides](#))



Online resources

- We have approx 60 webpages of dedicated resources
- Five steps into college
- Six steps into university
- MyBnk guide to managing finances
- DSA application process

Resources for professionals

“We have used the guidance to inform our practice across the entire university and have found it incredibly useful, so I would like to pass on my thanks to those who put the time in to produce such a fantastic guide!”

- HEP guide for supporting student during COVID
- Links to TPT’s ‘What do we see video’
- HEP guidance in development

Advocacy and advice

“I want to express my deepest gratitude to you for your support. I know for a fact that if it was not for your intervention, things would not have progressed this far. Thank you immensely!”

Inbox and phone line

We've supported over 70 cases

Networking and peer support

- Online community with over 110 members
- Chance to share thoughts, ideas and questions
- Looking at opportunities to bring students together

Events and information sharing

Webinar introduction to DSA with SLC and NDCS

Webinar 'Demystifying DSA assessments'

LOOK UK and TPT event 'getting ready for university'

LOOK UK starting university during COVID-19

Future events

- getting support in place at university
- Exams

Personal stories

Some aspects of Archaeology involve examining tiny marks on pottery and metal which for me is impossible. But the university found a way around this by using a mixture of tactile indications as well as the lecturer working one to one with me on how I can identify things just by feeling them. This really helped. We also used special microscopes that link to large screens. This enhanced the object and allowed me to see it in a way a fully sighted person would.

“We used 3D scanners to copy the objects onto the touchscreens where I can then zoom, flip and manipulate it in a way I would not have been able to do with just the object itself – it was so useful.

Contact us

www.pocklington-trust.org.uk/student-support

StudentSupport@Pocklington-Turst.org.uk

0203 757 8040 (Support line answer machine service)

www.facebook.com/groups/687384152070270/

www.youtube.com/channel/UCHEcHBANJwZoRBaEcD9LEjA/videos