



Student Support Quick Guide:

A student has a disability, dyslexia, a medical or mental health condition

What should you look out for?

At Edinburgh Napier, we are pleased that we are able to attract a significant number of disabled students (in 2023/24 this was 3275 students, around 1 in 6 of all students) with physical or sensory impairments, specific learning difficulties (such as dyslexia or dyspraxia), autistic spectrum conditions and a range of medical and mental health conditions which require particular support. We also recognise that many university students who are likely to have a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia will not have received a formal diagnosis of this at school. Students may also become disabled during their time at university. Many disabled students find that previous strategies and coping mechanisms which served them well during their time at school are no longer working for them in the higher education context. Look out for students who regularly submit work late, seem to struggle with written elements of their course, display perfectionist tendencies or frustration at the marks they are receiving, as they could potentially benefit from some additional support.

What should you do?

After discussing your observations/concerns please help the student to contact the Disability Inclusion team. You should also consider what adjustments you can put in place immediately and read the University's policies and guidance on the [Disability Inclusion pages on My Napier](#) & [mainstreaming adjustments](#). Further information and guidance can be found on the [staff intranet](#) and on the [DLTE intranet pages](#) and [Moodle pages](#).

You can help the student to contact disabilityinclusion@napier.ac.uk

We would recommend students contact the Disability Inclusion team as soon as possible, rather than waiting until they encounter difficulties.

We respect a student's wish not to come forward for support if they prefer not to; however, it is

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important that they understand the implications of this choice. In circumstances like this, you, as a staff member, are very welcome to contact the Team for advice.

What happens next?

After contacting the Team, the student will be given an appointment to speak with a Disability Inclusion Adviser who will work with them to develop and implement a package of support unique to their individual circumstances. The Adviser will:

Recommend and, in many cases, source additional support for students. This may include adaptations to their accommodation; supply (and training to use) specialist equipment or software, additional human support – such as a note-taker or personal assistant – or adjustments to learning, teaching and assessment methods.

Complete an Individual Learning Plan that outlines for academic colleagues what adjustments they should put in place for the student.

Liaise with external partners, such as SAAS to ensure that students receive any external funding they are eligible for to pay for the disability support and specialist equipment.

Last updated August 2024.
For further information or to provide feedback about this Quick Guide, please [contact dlte@napier.ac.uk](mailto:dlte@napier.ac.uk)



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