

BRIGHTON PALACE PIER

DONUTS & CREPES

SWEET
TASTY
DELICIOUS

SOCIALISE WITH

DELICIOUS
WITH
NUTELLA

DONUTS & CREPES

SWEET
TASTY
DELICIOUS

CANDY FLOSS

SLUSH

ICE CREAM

THIS WAY TO THE
EYES OF THE PIER

WHERE TICKETS MAKE
THE DIFFERENCE

Escape our
REDEMPTION
MACHINES
WALK OF
FAME & ICE
BUCKETS
PRIZES

BRIGHTON
PALACE PIER
COLLECTIBLE
MEDALLIONS

...the size of them
Collect all 4!



Going to University with additional needs

Finnuala Jenkins - UK Regional Recruitment Officer



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What we will cover

- Reasonable adjustments
- Researching your choices
- Sharing on your UCAS application
- Speaking to university student support teams
- Disabled students' Allowance



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Going to university is an **exciting and enriching experience**, but it can feel overwhelming and sometimes uncertain

Universities have teams to support **ALL students**

There is **focused support for those with individual needs**

Our Disability and Learning Support team support and guidance to students with;

- any disability or physical or mental health condition that is likely to or has lasted 12 months or more

For example:

- Learning differences e.g. Dyslexia & dyspraxia
- Neurodivergence e.g. Autism, ADHD
- Sensory related needs e.g. Deafness, Blindness
- Mobility support & wheelchair users
- Mental health conditions e.g. Borderline Personality Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Anxiety
- Longterm illnesses e.g. Diabetes, epilepsy, fibromyalgia

As well as:

- Pregnancy & postnatal support
- Temporary injuries affecting course/placements

As well as **care experienced students**, those with **caring responsibilities**, **refugees**, **asylum seekers** and students from **armed forces families**



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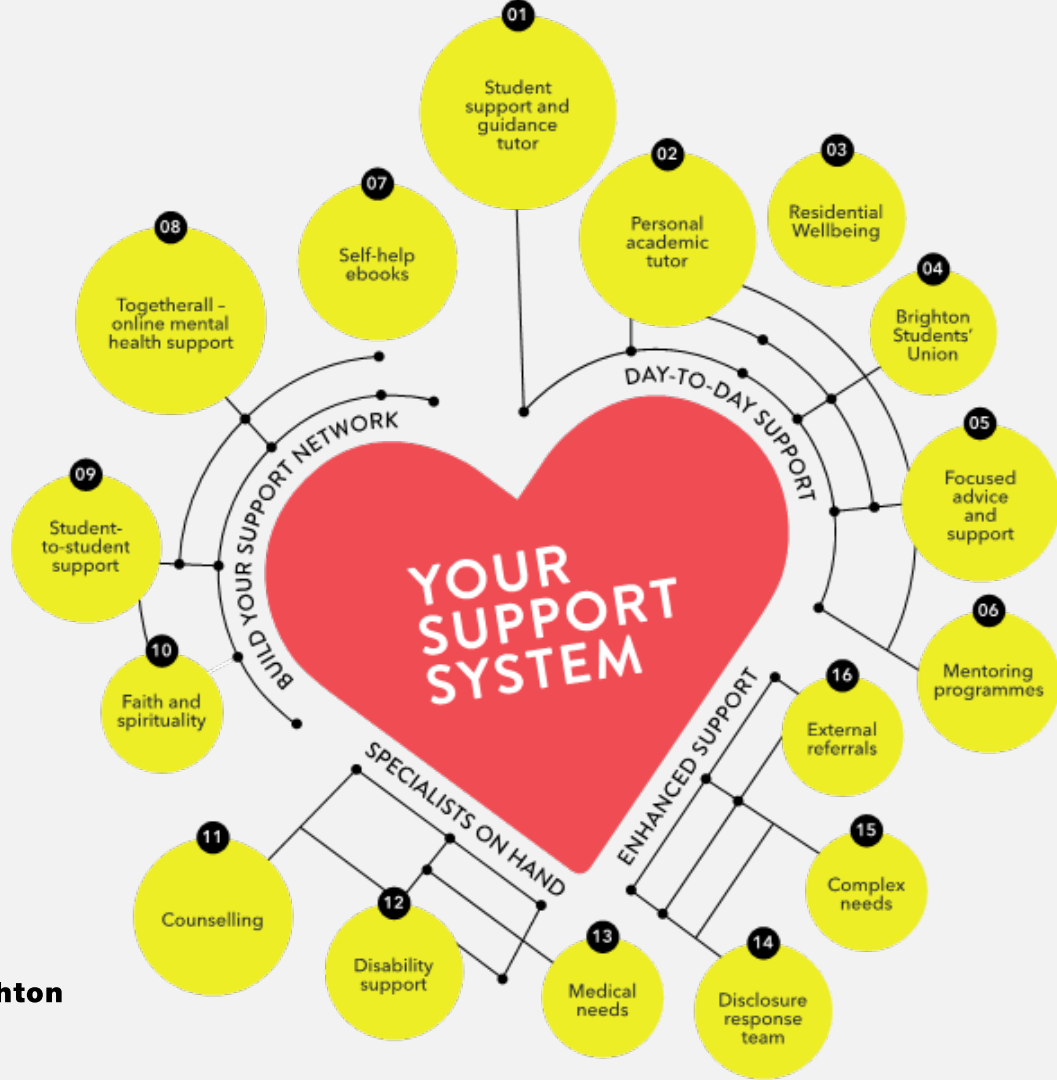
Did you know?

- Nationally 19% students studying in Higher Education in 2024-25 had declared a disability – that is 545,910 in total * *HESA Data 979 1-2*
- At the University of Brighton We are seeing a growing proportion of students telling us about a disability every year
- In 2024-25, 35% students at the University had told us about a disability



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Support comes in 2 parts...

University-based support

- Learning Support Plans
- Lecturer and staff disability awareness and training
- Inclusive teaching practices
- Pastoral support, including Student Services, Residential Wellbeing Advisors, Students Union

Funded support

- Help with computing and printing costs
- 1-1 “non-medical helper support” such as; Specialist Study Skills Tuition, Specialist Mentoring, Notetaking and Physical Support
- Travel allowances

]Funded support can come from a variety of support avenues- DSA[Adult Services[Social Services[PIP[Apprenticeships Team



Key differences between school/college and university

- Students are viewed as adults, and therefore take great responsibility for engaging in support
- Greater emphasis on independent study and research
- Need to engage with multiple people and services



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Reasonable adjustments

- Under the Equality Act 2010 universities and colleges must make changes to ensure disabled people can access their courses and facilities
- Adjustments should be to the **needs of the individual**; this could be considerations such as course materials in a different format, accessible accommodation and teaching facilities, alternative assessment methods



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What conditions are covered? (Equality act 2010)

- **Physical disabilities** which could include mobility issues, using a wheelchair, motor difficulties
- **Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)** such as dyslexia or dyspraxia; there are more than this, but these are the most well known
- **Mental health conditions** such as depression, anxiety, bipolar, schizophrenia, OCD and more
- **Medical/sensory conditions** such as diabetes, epilepsy/deafness/blindness/sensory processing condition
- **Neurodivergence** such as Autistic Spectrum conditions and ADHD



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Do your Research

Your research will depend on your individual needs and adjustment requirements

- Pre-entry support
- Academic and study support
- Assessment support
- Campus and facilities
- Accommodation and lifestyle
- Personal care
- Mental health & wellbeing support



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Visit university websites

Advice for students with disabilities, mental health issues or dyslexia

Physical disabilities

How accessible is your campus? What facilities and equipment are provided to support you?

Autistic spectrum conditions

Information on the support available to help you make the transition to university and succeed in your course.

Mental health issues

How and why we take mental wellbeing very seriously and the support you will get at the university.

Dyslexia or specific learning difficulties

Find out why you should declare a learning difficulty, and what support you will get.



Finding out more

- Speak to university support teams
- Universities have teams in place to make sure students can get the right support for their individual needs
- UCAS have a helpful list of questions that might support those conversations
- Open days, Applicant Visit Days



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Share

- The easiest way to find out about the support that is right for you is to let the university know about your support needs in your **UCAS application**
- **More about me** section – select from a list of options & free text

]This information is never used to make a decision on your application



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What happens after you submit your application

1 Application is sent by secure transfer to the university or college admissions department

All health data is handled **confidentially** under UK-GDPR legislation.

2 Admissions staff assess the application based only on the applicant's academic aptitude and potential to succeed on the course

Information about an applicant's health is kept confidential and only accessible to those who are responsible for organising support – it's **not used to make an academic judgement**.

3 The applicant may be made an offer or invited to interview/audition

If so, **the information is transferred securely to the student support team** where reasonable adjustments are organised, as necessary.

4 Once an offer is accepted, the student support team may contact the applicant with information about the available support

This may include completing a questionnaire, a visit to the university or college to arrange support, or more information about applying for a DSA.

5 Before the student's arrival, the student support team may draft a support agreement

This will **outline any reasonable adjustments** and be discussed with the student – taking account of DSA recommendations, where applicable.

6 Before starting the course, the student support team will discuss the distribution of any support document with the student

This will be **securely shared on a strict 'need to know' basis**. This may include academic staff, the personal tutor, the Disability and Learning Support team, exams officers, as appropriate.



Obtaining supporting documents

- You will be asked to provide supporting documents to both the Disability and Learning Support team at the university and as part of an application for Disabled Students' Allowance

The supporting documents can be:

- A letter or SFE disability form written by a medically qualified professional such as a GP, consultant or psychiatrist
- A diagnostic assessment by a psychologist, specialist qualified teacher or a psychiatrist



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What do I need to provide

- For dyslexia and other Specific Learning difficulties (SpLD):
A full diagnostic report written and signed by a chartered educational psychologist, or a specialist teacher with a clear confirmation of your SpLD
- For autism and ADHD
A full psychiatrist's report with a clear diagnosis written and signed by your psychiatrist
- A completed SFE disability form from your GP or consultant for any other condition, be that physical, medical or sensory

** Your condition must have lasted 12 months or more or be expected to and have a significant effect on your day-to-day functioning*



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Learning Support Plans

- Will include reasonable adjustments, considering the way your course is taught and assessed to ensure that you reach your full potential
- Recommendations in your Learning Support Plan will depend on your disability and your course requirements



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Adjustments to teaching

- Ensuring lecturers are aware you lip read
- Seating requirements
- Recommendations for specialist equipment
- Timetable modifications to ensure rooms are fully accessible
- Voice recorder/audio note-taking devices in lectures *depending on any course variation
- BSL Interpreters



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Adjustments to assessments

- Extra time in exams
- Adjusted coursework deadlines
- Alternative or adjusted modes of assessment
- Alternative placement activities
- Rest breaks/scribes



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Applying for Disabled Students' Allowance

- Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) is financial support to cover the study-related costs you have because of a mental health problem, long-term illness or any other disability
- It is not means tested
- All UK students who are studying full or part time on an undergraduate or postgraduate degree can apply
- Apply alongside the Student Finance application



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The DSA application process

- If you applied for a student loan and declared a disability on your original application you will also be invited to apply for DSA through the online system
- If you have been successful in the first stage of your application for DSA you will receive a letter from Student Finance England for a **needs assessment appointment** to determine what funding related items or support you will need for your course



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DSA – what to expect

- Can take on average up to 4 weeks after needs assessment before your confirmation of funding
- If you consent to share DSA information with your university the teams can help you to set up support
- Whole process is quite lengthy, start early, respond promptly, they won't send reminders.



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During your studies

- Talk to the Disability team if your needs change or you are not managing as well as you could be
- New issues may crop up because study techniques or demands differ as a course progresses
- If you have changes to your health or further diagnoses, let the Disability team know



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What to do between now & enrolling on your course:

- Try and visit before you apply, before you accept and offer
- Support for All students at induction
- Some universities will offer specific inductions for student groups e.g at Brighton we hold a 2-day induction meeting for autistic students



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Extra advice & support

- 'Belong at Brighton' Podcast
- 'One in Five' podcast created by UniTaster Days

Variety of episodes including university events and doing your research, support and getting the experience you deserve



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Useful websites

[Brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/applying-to-brighton/advice-for-students](https://brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/applying-to-brighton/advice-for-students)

[Ucas.com/applying/applying-university/individual-needs](https://ucas.com/applying/applying-university/individual-needs)

[Gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa/how-to-claim](https://gov.uk/disabled-students-allowance-dsa/how-to-claim)



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Keep in touch

- Enquiries team:

01273 644644

or chat live on our website

- Chat to a student

www.brighton.ac.uk/chat

- Online Events

<https://www.brighton.ac.uk/studying-here/visit-us/online-events/index.aspx>



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Any Questions?

