

# Disability support:

## Information for new students

We encourage all students who are eligible to apply for Disabled Students Allowance (DSA); some of you may choose to wait until you start your course to access support, but contacting us before you start your studies is the best way to make sure that any support you need is in place.

### How does the University deliver support for disabled students?

We have two dedicated teams who offer support to students with additional learning requirements. For students with dyslexia or other Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD) there is a specialist team based in the Library. For students with medical conditions, autistic spectrum conditions, physical or sensory impairments and those requiring support for mental health conditions, the Inclusion team is based in Student Services. Additionally the Learning Support Service (LSS) provides support to all disabled students through the provision of group sessions and one to one support in relation to Study Skills and Assistive Technology. We work closely together and with academic colleagues and support staff to ensure the best experience for all our students. We provide a friendly and professional service and applicants and students can discuss individual requirements in complete confidence.

#### SpLD Support Team

Email [spld@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:spld@edgehill.ac.uk) Tel: 01695 584372

Find us on the 1st floor of the University Library at the Ask Desk

- You can make an Informal Assessment appointment to explore whether you have indicators of a SpLD. Please contact the team to arrange an appointment.
- You can request an on campus diagnostic assessment with a qualified and accredited specialist assessor. Please note we ask students for a contribution of £100 towards the cost of a diagnostic assessment. Information, advice and guidance is available from the [Money Advice team](#) if you are struggling to meet the cost of the assessment or recommended equipment.
- On campus screening appointments for Meares Irlen syndrome are available to you on referral
- You will receive support in applying for DSA
- If you qualify for disability support you will receive [specialist one to one study skills support](#) delivered by specialist tutors employed directly by the university on a permanent or a freelance basis

#### Inclusion Team

Email [inclusionteam@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:inclusionteam@edgehill.ac.uk) Tel: 01695 584190

Find us on the ground floor of the Student Information Centre

The Inclusion Team provides a range of support services to students in the university and you can contact us to seek advice or arrange an appointment to discuss your needs and the support available to you at Edge Hill.

We can help with:

- Disclosure and confidentiality
- The support available to you from the team and other Student Services
- What is meant by reasonable adjustments and how you might benefit
- Information related to exam modifications and alternative assessments
- Physical adaptations to rooms and access to campus facilities
- Advice about eligibility for Disabled Students' Allowance
- Advice about accessing academic support

# How does the University deliver support for disabled students?

## Learning Support Service

Email [learningsupport@edgehill.ac.uk](mailto:learningsupport@edgehill.ac.uk) Tel: 01695 584683

Find us on the 1st Floor of the University Library at the Ask Desk

The Learning Support Service (LSS) provides support to all disabled students around study skills and assistive technologies. LSS offers group sessions (LINK Disability support - support tab) and one to one sessions to help you develop strategies to meet your challenges.

We can help with:

- Notetaking
- Assignment writing
- Planning
- Exam preparation
- Library inductions
- Apps for study
- Assistive Technology
- Digitisation

# What support does the University offer disabled students?

On the basis of diagnostic or medical evidence of a disability, you will have the opportunity to discuss appropriate reasonable adjustments with staff in the Inclusion Team or SpLD Team, to ensure we are able to provide the best support. Examples of the adjustments you might expect to see may include:

## Support for formal learning, such as:

- Lecture outlines, or preparatory readings in advance where possible
- Advance warning of requirements to read out loud in class
- Permission to record lectures
- 1-1 specialist study skills support (including option for twilight sessions by arrangement)
- 1-1 mentor support

## Support for examinations / in class tests / assessments, such as:

- Extra time
- Individual rooms for exams (when there is a clear, disability related reason, i.e. a requirement of a reader or scribe)
- Small, shared room (and use of a computer, if required)
- Alternative forms of assessment

## Library requirements, such as:

- Automatic renewal of library loans
- Reserve and Collect
- One to one library induction
- Digitisation on demand – this service is available on referral if you have a visual impairment, a SpLD or any disability that impacts on your access to printed text. You can request scans of extracts or chapters of books and entire books direct from publishers or through the Bookshare service.

## Adjustments to the environment, such as:

- Classes to be held in accessible (level access) rooms
- Access to an ergonomic chair during lectures or seminars if there is a disability related reason

## What support is available to all students?

The university also has a wide range of support that is available to all students, ranging from general software to targeted applications for specific tasks.

The first and perhaps the most useful to you is the opportunity to access a free version of [MS office](#) which you can download onto your home PC or laptop.

The university also has a range of [assistive technologies](#), available on the network and these are of benefit to all students. We have produced some useful guides to support you in accessing these technologies.

To find out more about these technologies and how they can help you optimise your time at university;

1. Attend one of our Uniskills session to learn more about this suite of systems. Or if you want to get started, log onto the university network and access
  - Inspiration
  - Read and Write Gold
  - Claro
  - Mindview (access available in the Library and at satellite campuses)
2. If you're interested in using [study apps](#) to help you manage your studies, Instapaper, Go Conquer, One Note, Google Keep and Evernote have been tested by students and staff and come highly recommended – try them out.
3. If you want or need to use an adapted space the Library hosts a dedicated Assistive Technology room available to all students on the ground floor. The room is wheelchair accessible, all the desks are height adjustable and zoomtext magnification software is available alongside an affinity magnification machine. In addition the room has a 65" height adjustable screen.
4. You can borrow laptops and digital recorders from the Library, available from an accessible self-service machine located on the ground floor. All laptops have assistive technologies pre-loaded and are available for a 24hour loan period.
5. If you need a quiet study space, or space for group work, these are available for booking at [Edgehill Go](#). If you're looking for an available PC or Mac use the [PC Finder](#) on your phone or tablet.
6. If you want help with note taking or revision, lecture capture is available in all lecture theatres and teaching spaces used for lectures. Tutors may choose to use the software to capture an audio recording of the lecture synced to the slides and this could be available to you through your module area in BlackBoard, our virtual learning environment.

## Looking for general advice, support and guidance?

### Student Support Services

Our aim is to support you to develop independent living skills as well as providing an educational environment that helps you realise your potential during your time at University.

Services include;

- [Counselling](#)
- [Health & Wellbeing](#)
- [Multi-Faith Chaplaincy](#)
- [Money Advice Team](#)
- [Careers](#)
- [Edge Hill Students' Union](#)
- [Language Centre](#)

## Looking for help with your academic studies?

### Learning Services can provide a wide range of support including:

- 1-1 sessions with subject librarians arranged through the Ask Desk on the first floor of the Library. In addition a range of course specific [subject resources](#) are available for every student.
- Academic workshops and online tutorials through our [Uniskills](#) offer on academic writing at various levels, proofreading, information searching, exam preparation and revision.
- Automatic renewal of loans ( unless reserved by another user)
- The Learning Support service offers a range of group sessions to disabled students around study skills and assistive technology to support you in developing strategies.
- Access to our knowledge base [Ask Us](#) which contains answers to the most commonly asked questions
- Help desks in each of the library buildings and at the University Library (Ormskirk) you will also find the ASK desk where you can access specialist help and support in relation to the Inclusion team, SpLD support, subject specific librarians and the academic skills team.