

Disability Advice

The term 'disability' includes specific learning disabilities such as dyslexia (see Learning Support), visual or hearing impairment, mental health difficulties or any medical condition which may have an impact on day-to-day activities. Students who disclose a disability shall be invited to an interview with the Disability Co-ordinator to discuss their specific needs. Any reasonable adjustments to your course of study in response to a disability can then be agreed. The co-ordinator is able to liaise with staff in relevant departments to address your needs. The extent to which the disability remains confidential is agreed during the initial interview.

Students who have recent documentation regarding their disability from either a doctor or educational psychologist may be eligible to apply for a Disabled Students Allowance (DSA). The co-ordinator can help you to apply for DSA, including obtaining any necessary documentation. DSA can cover the costs of any required technological or personal assistance. For this reason, it is in your interest to get in touch with us as early as possible so that an early application can be made.

Disabled Students

Disability policy

The College is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all students. Throughout all aspects of College life, we actively encourage and support the participation of students with disabilities, including specific learning difficulties (such as dyslexia), sensory impairments, medical conditions (such as diabetes) and physical conditions which may have an impact on everyday life.

Applications

If you have a disability, however mild or severe, you are encouraged to disclose it at the time of your application. You shall then be invited to discuss your specific needs with Student Support Services. Your confidentiality will be respected throughout this process.

Cross-college support

The College has a full-time learning/disability co-ordinator working within Student Support Services who liaises with staff throughout **eca** to ensure that the needs of students with disabilities are met. This may include providing specialised equipment, making individual arrangements for exams, adapting the curriculum to meet particular needs or provide one-to-one support.

Access

While the main campus is wheelchair accessible, with automatic doors, lifts and toilets all suitable for wheelchair users, access to certain studios and departments is limited. Students with disabilities are given priority in the allocation of parking spaces. Schools/Departments will ensure that all classes and tutorials are undertaken within accessible spaces.

Specialised equipment

The main campus is equipped with a Deaf Alerter fire-alarm system and the principal lecture theatres are fitted with induction loops.

Disabled students' allowance

This can pay for equipment and/or specialist software, cover the cost of personal assistance, and help with incidental expenses such as photocopying. For further information, please contact Student Support Services.

Additional sources of information and help

Further information relevant to students with disabilities can be found on **eca's** website www.eca.ac.uk and in access to education: 'A Guide for Disabled Students in Higher Education', which is published by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council. Both of these documents are available from Student Support Services. You can also contact the organisation Skill, the National Bureau for Students with Disabilities, by telephoning 0800 328 5050 or through their website: www.skill.org.uk

For information on any of our services, please contact us at:

Student Support Services

tel +44 (0)131 221 6023

fax +44 (0)131 221 6102

email ss@eca.ac.uk