

Welcome to Disability Support and Inclusion (DSI)

Head of Student Accessibility and Inclusion: **Ruth Hodgkinson**

Disability Support Manager: **Nicola Keeling**

Disability Advisers: **Emma Coupe, Jane Wilkinson, Claire Phillips & Amie Lovelock**

Student Accessibility and Inclusion Triage Officers: **Jo Hunter and Jan Davenport**

Student Accessibility and Inclusion Administrator: **Rachel Cooper**

It's the Keele difference.

Your Faculty Disability Adviser

- Each Faculty has an allocated Disability Adviser.
- Please email support.dsi@keele.ac.uk and your email will be allocated to the relevant member of the team.
- **Emma Coupe** - Faculty of Natural Sciences and Foundation Year
- **Jane Wilkinson** - Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Apprenticeships
- **Claire Phillips** - Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences
- **Amie Lovelock** – HK Vet School and Foundation Year

What does DSI do?

- Support and assist any student with a disability or health condition to access their studies.
- We can offer advice and assistance on a range of support strategies and any **reasonable adjustments** that you may be entitled to in the teaching and learning environment and across campus.
- We can **liaise with staff** to ensure that they are aware of your disability, the impact this may have on your studies, and ensure any agreed adjustments are in place.
- Advise on **Disabled Student Allowance (DSA)** and a wide range of support and adjustments to meet the individual needs of disabled students.



What is DSA?

- DSA stands for **Disabled Students Allowance**.
- If your ability to access your studies is affected by a mental health condition, disability, chronic illness, and/or learning difference, you will be entitled to the DSA.
- The DSA is a **grant** that you don't need to pay back.
- It is **not means tested**.
- It **funds support** that will help you succeed in Higher Education by breaking down the study and wellbeing barriers that you may otherwise have faced.

What is DSA used for?

DSA is used to fund additional costs related to your disability.
This may include:

1. Specialist Equipment Allowance
2. Non-Medical Helpers Allowance
3. General Allowance
4. Travel Allowance

Inclusive Education Framework

The Inclusive Education Framework reflects the University's commitment to ensure that all students, including those with protected characteristics and beyond, can participate and thrive in every aspect of the educational experience and process.

We strive to remove barriers to learning, celebrate diversity and create a sense of community and a sense of belonging for all students. This includes a commitment to mainstream traditional reasonable adjustments to ensure that individual adjustments become the exception and not the rule.



It's the Keele difference.

Barriers faced by students.

- What can you do as an individual to empower yourself at University?



Ways to empower yourself?

- Early Disclosure of your Disability
- Speak to DSI regarding reasonable adjustments and available support.
- Access available support.
- Know who to contact.
- Reach out if you are feeling isolated.
- Know how to get around campus.
- Get to lectures early.
- Join Societies.
- Get to know your flatmates.
- Be a part of the Keele Community.
- Build your confidence.

Read Miriam's success story:

Student who was left in wheelchair 'overnight' overcomes the odds to graduate from university

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/graduation/inspiringstories/2024/july/miriam-culy/student-overcome-odds.php>



Contact Information

- DSI: Support.dsi@keele.ac.uk
- Student Services: student.services@keele.ac.uk
- Counselling and Mental Health: counselling@keele.ac.uk
- Library: library.help@keele.ac.uk
- Academic Skills: <https://www.keele.ac.uk/library/academicskills/>



Any questions?