

## Disability Statement

The University of Southampton welcomes students with a wide range of disabilities and specific learning difficulties. We have a range of services and facilities to support your needs and can sign-post you to external agencies where appropriate. This section provides a brief outline of those services and of our policies, processes and procedures. More detailed current information about the services we offer is available from Enabling Services. Alternatively, you may go to [www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport) for a detailed overview of the services and support available.

The main aim of the Enabling Services is to empower every student to reach their full potential at university by providing information, advice and guidance tailored to meet individual needs. Enabling Services aim to support students to take part as fully and as equitably as possible in every aspect of university life.

### What does the University mean by "disability"?

The definition of "disability" includes those people who have any of the following:

- physical disability;
- sensory loss;
- mental health needs;
- health conditions (e.g. asthma, epilepsy, diabetes, chronic fatigue syndrome, arthritis);
- medical conditions which may cause pain or other symptoms which affect your studies;
- specific learning difficulties (e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia);
- autistic spectrum disorders such as Aspergers Syndrome;
- any other condition which has a significant effect on your ability to study.

### Will I be discriminated against because of my disability?

The University's [Equal Opportunity policy](#), which has been in place since 1988, states that no person will be discriminated against on any grounds which are not relevant to their academic ability. This includes disability. The University is therefore committed to a programme of action to make the policy fully effective.

One exception to this general rule is that a few professions (e.g. medicine and other health related professions such as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy or Nursing and Social Work) have national 'fitness to practice' guidelines concerning applications from disabled students. Please contact the Admissions Tutor of the course which interests you or Enabling Services for further information about these guidelines.

*Reviewed in July 2017; no changes made*