Support for Learning

www.northamptoncollege.ac.uk



Northampton College


SIZE: 17 X 17

Policy statement

Northampton College is committed to ensuring that people with disabilities, including those with learning difficulties, are treated fairly.

All reasonable adjustments to provision will be made to ensure that students and other people with disabilities are not substantially disadvantaged.

Northampton College is committed to complying with the terms of the Equality Act 2010 and the 2014 Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice.

This statement gives details of the help and support available to students with disabilities.

It is reviewed and up-dated annually and we would welcome feedback on any of the content.

All prospective students are advised to make support needs known prior to enrolment.

If you are aware of anyone who is unable to access this Disability Statement in this format please let them know that we are willing to provide alternatives. Details of contact names can be found at the end of this leaflet.



How can I join the College?



- Information about courses is given in the College's full-time prospectus and on its website. Prospectuses are available from Reception and our Enrolment Centres.
- All application forms have a space for you to say if you have any additional needs due to disability or learning difficulty.
- If you tick yes to one of these questions please complete the part that asks for further details about the reason you need support. This will not affect your application but it will help us to be sure that you can discuss your support needs with someone who understands your difficulties.
- You will be sent more information about support and may be asked to attend a needs assessment discussion or invited to additional transition planning events.
- During the needs assessment we will talk to you about the help you may need and make sure that your learning needs have been understood and the College facilities and resources are appropriate to your needs.



If you would prefer to discuss support for your learning before you apply for a course you may contact the Enrolment Centre to arrange an interview.

If you apply for a course that is part of our Supported Learning programmes you will have just one meeting with the course staff who will tell you about the course and talk about any support needs you may have.

Transitional support

Students with EHCPs will be invited to take part in Transition Days with the Support Team. These provide the opportunity to explore the campus, become familiar with the Support Team and meet other students who will be joining the College.

Students who enrol via the Non-Standard Entry route i.e. students who have been home educated or out of education will be invited to take part in The Big Leap; this will involve working with the Transition Practitioner to attend college for transition activates and events to help them become familiar with the college.



What is an Education Health and Care Plan? (EHCP)

An EHCP is a legal document that describes a child or young person's special educational, health and social care needs.

It explains the extra support that will be given to meet those needs and how that help will support the child or young person to achieve what they want to in their life. The plan is drawn up by the local authority after a statutory needs assessment.

An EHCP can be issued to a child or young person between the ages of 0 and 25 years, and the College will support you through the Annual Review of the plan to ensure it remains up to date and that colleagues continue to support you to prepare for adulthood.

If you have an EHCP the College's specialist team will work with you towards the outcomes in the plan and review your support needs with you whilst you are at college.

If you already have an EHCP you will be asked to declare this on your application form so that the College knows to arrange a support interview.

You can also contact us by email: ehcp@northamptoncollege.ac.uk

For further information on EHCPs and how to apply for them visit: https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/education-health-and-care-ehc-plans-process-and-assessment

What sort of support could I have?

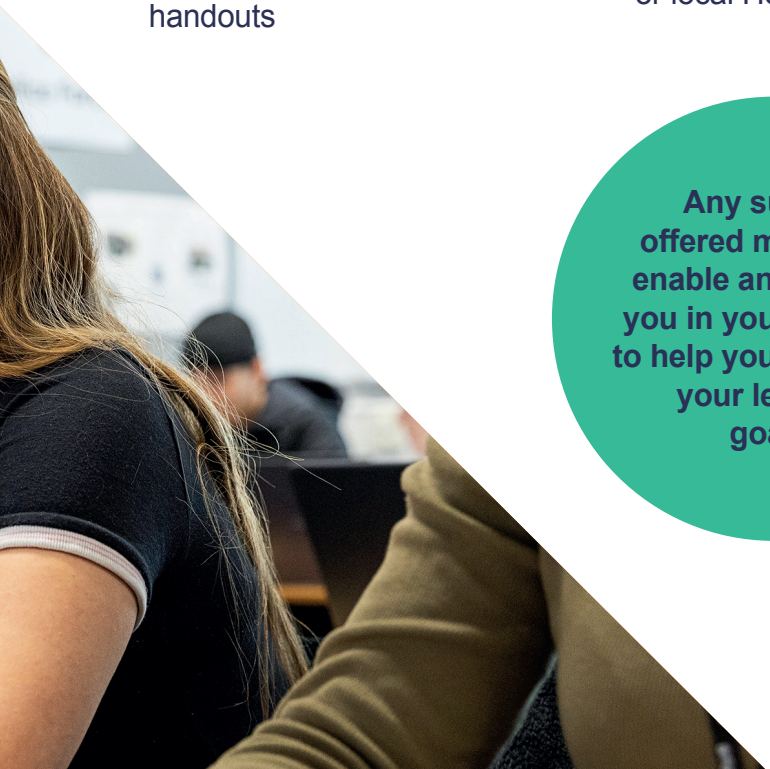
The support provided by the College will depend on a detailed assessment of your needs.

To help with this we will use information that you give us and also, if appropriate, from parents/carers, careers services, social services, schools etc.



These are some of the ways in which we can help you:

- Specialist support staff
- Additional teaching
- In class support workers
- Development of literacy, numeracy, language and study skills
- Provision of equipment and aids
- Communicators (BSL), note takers, Braille, enlarged or voice file handouts
- Access to a free Student Assistance Programme
- Special arrangements to support you in exams
- Specialist assessment to provide evidence of need for exam arrangements
- Advice/support to course teachers
- Links with agencies such as Community Services or local Health Trust

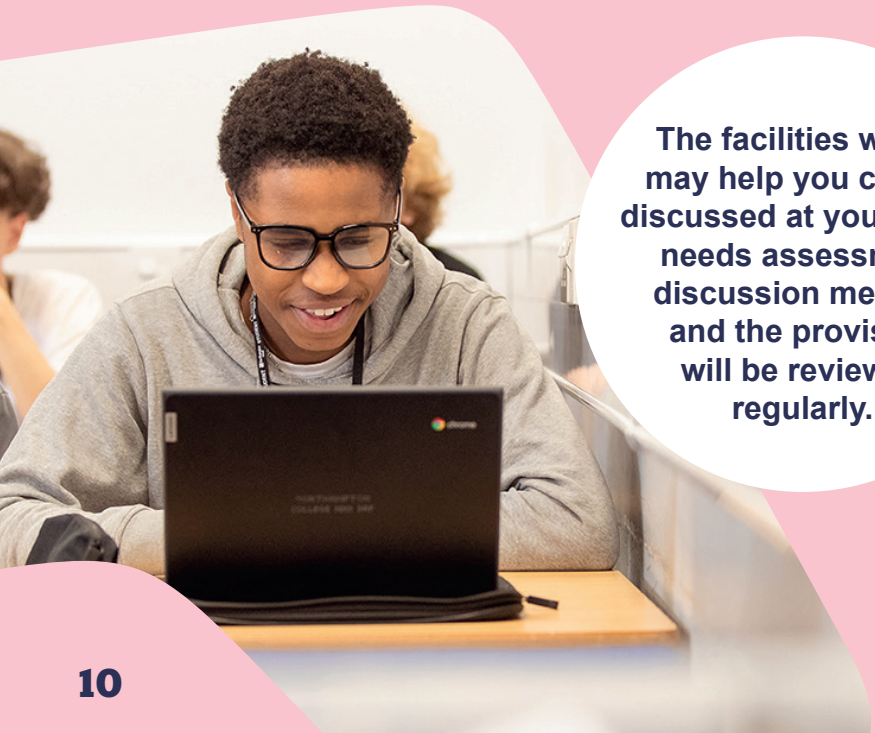


Any support offered must be to enable and support you in your learning, to help you to achieve your learning goals.

Can I get help with additional equipment and learning aids?

We have a wide range of equipment, software and learning aids available to help students, including:

- Dictaphones
- Radio aids/portable hearing loops
- Special keyboard/ key guards
- Laptop computers/ electronic notebooks
- The facility to make Braille and/or raised diagrams
- Specialist software on computers.



The facilities which may help you can be discussed at your initial needs assessment discussion meeting and the provision will be reviewed regularly.

Can the staff support my needs?



We provide expertise in a range of different learning needs including:

- Specific learning difficulties e.g. Dyslexia/Dyspraxia
- Literacy and numeracy
- Well-being and mental health issues
- Autistic spectrum conditions
- Hearing needs
- Visual needs
- Physical difficulties
- ADHD Coaching support
- Study skills support
- General learning difficulties.

Where needs are identified outside of this expertise the College may draw on external specialist resources to meet them.

If I need it, will I get help with access arrangements for exams?



You will be given a chance to discuss this at your initial needs assessment discussion and all students will also be asked by their tutors if they need any access arrangements for their exams.

Access arrangements which you may be able to have include:

- Extra time to complete the exam
- Reader/Communication support worker
- Modified language and/or papers
- Scribe
- Physical help
- Translation dictionary.





You must inform your tutor at the beginning of your course if you believe you are entitled to access arrangements. Some of these arrangements have to be applied for a long time in advance of the exams.

You will need to provide evidence that you are eligible for access arrangements. This can be discussed with the Additional Learning Support team who can advise what evidence is needed by the examining boards and will work with the Exams office to make the application for access arrangements for you.

If you receive exam access arrangements at school for your GCSEs, then you should ask your school to give you a copy of the evidence they use to apply for these.



Can I access college buildings?

- All college buildings, and all areas of the Booth Lane site, are accessible with either ramped or level access
- There are lifts to all teaching rooms that are above ground floor and there are accessible evacuation routes
- Adjustable height tables are available in all general use areas, e.g. libraries, computer suite and can be supplied to any classroom if required
- All catering facilities are wheelchair accessible
- There are toilet facilities for people with disabilities adjacent to all toilets
- The College ensures that students with mobility issues are not timetabled in the few rooms that they may find difficult to access
- The car parking spaces nearest to all main buildings are reserved for people with disabilities.

How do I tell you how good or bad my college experiences are?

There are many ways of giving the college feedback, for details contact the enrolment centre, student support or any member of staff or use the ‘tell us how we are doing’ scheme.



Support for those aged over 19



If you are aged 24 or over and are in receipt of a loan to pay for your course you will also need to pay for any support needed. This also applies to students aged between 19 and 23 who do not have an education health and care plan (EHCP).

There are bursary grants available to help with this cost but these grants may be limited to a maximum of £1,000 per applicant per year.

If you would like more information, please contact:

- Amy Corfield, Additional Learning Support Manager on **01604 734275**
- or for those with an EHCP, Rebecca Olver, EHCP Team Leader **07936 340837**
- or email **sipadmin@northamptoncollege.ac.uk**

Higher Education students: please note that Northampton College is not currently a provider of Student Finance England funded Non-Medical Help.

For further information on Disabled Students Allowance, please visit www.gov.uk.

If you are awarded a non-medical helper, and need us to facilitate their access to our sites, please contact us on the usual number.

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