Disability advice to Doctoral College

The New Additional Learning Support (ALS) team are proactive in supporting all students and providing staff with disability advice. This flow chart is designed to give an overview of what to do if a student discloses a disability or you feel there is something hindering the student’s progress. Please contact als@surrey.ac.uk.

Your student has disclosed a disability

Initial supervisory meetings:
Ask the student how their disability has impacted on their studies so far and what support they received. Ask if there is anything that you can do to help alleviate the impact of their disability.

Encourage student to contact ALS
als@surrey.ac.uk

Unexpected difficulty
Your student announces they seem to be finding their studies harder than is typically expected.

If you think your student might have an undiagnosed difficulty
If you feel something’s amiss but are not sure if the student has a disability

To find out more about your student’s disability
You wish to understand more about a disability, the impact it might have on your student’s progress and how you can adjust your practice to help.

Interviewing a potential PhD student.

Ask the student if there are special requirements to allow them to perform as well as non-disabled candidates.

Seek ALS advice on required accommodations and reasonable adjustments.

For known disabilities
ALS will assist students (if UK nationals) in applying for the Disabled Students Allowance. This is non means tested funding for assistive technology and non-medical help support, such as a tutor or mentor.

For EU/International students, an ALS disability adviser will discuss assistive technology and non-medical help support that the University may fund.

ALS will arrange screening for Specific Learning Differences (e.g., Dyslexia, dyspraxia), and refer students for full diagnostic assessment if necessary (students are required to contribute £100 towards this full assessment). A disability adviser can explore support for medical, physical or mental health conditions affecting a student’s performance.

Encourage student to contact ALS
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When unsure if there is a disability
Contact ALS and a disability adviser will discuss your concerns with you.

Contact ALS and arrange a meeting with a disability adviser who will provide bespoke advice.

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