

Greater Brighton Metropolitan Accessibility Statement

Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years

From September 2014 the definition of Special Educational Needs (SEN) has been extended to include young people up to 25 years of age; the definition includes 'disabilities' and 'learning difficulties'. This means that Further Education Colleges are now required to 'have a regard to' the new 0-25 SEND Code of Practice and have a duty to co-operate with the local authority to identify and meet the needs of young people with SEND. At Greater Brighton Metropolitan College (GBMet) we are committed to complying with the duty and ensuring that we meet the needs of our students who have special educational needs and disabilities.

Removing Barriers for Disabled Students

The College recognises its responsibility to remove barriers to learning and success for all students, particularly those with disabilities and/or learning disabilities.

The College recognises we have a responsibility to:

- Eliminate disability related harassment
- Eliminate unlawful disability discrimination
- Promote equality of opportunity for disabled people and others
- Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people
- Encourage participation by disabled people in public life
- Take steps to take account of disabled people's disabilities even where that involves treating disabled people more favourably than others

- **Applying for courses**

The college's Admissions team can give information about courses available at the MET. They can be contacted on

Brighton: 01273 667704 or admissions-brighton@gbmc.ac.uk

Worthing: 0845 155 60 60 or admissions-worthing@gbmc.ac.uk

- The College is required by law to consult with students and ensure that they are involved in the decisions that will affect them. We encourage all learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to disclose to us so that, if necessary, we can discuss reasonable adjustments at an early stage.
- If you disclose a learning difficulty and/or disability to the college you will be sent an Additional Learning Support disclosure form. By completing and returning this form you have the opportunity to tell us about any reasonable adjustments you may need for any of our services.

- All the information you provide is handled sensitively and is given only to staff that need to know about your disability or reasonable adjustments. The Additional Learning Support Team will distribute information to lecturing and support staff about reasonable adjustments that may be needed.
- All applicants with a learning difficulty or disability are assessed and monitored by the Additional Learning Support team to ensure that they are treated fairly and with consideration of the reasonable adjustments the learner may need.

Types of Support Available

There is a wide range of support available to learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities including:

- 1:1, small group and drop-in support.
- Learning Support Assistants working in class and offering support outside of class.
- Support from Specialist Teachers.
- Communication Support Workers for deaf learners.
- Mobility support.
- Equipment loans.
- Use of assistive technology.
- Course materials adjusted to suit needs.
- Assessments for exam concessions.
- Note takers.
- Study skills support.
- A screening system, which identifies learners who have difficulty with their English and Maths skills.

Buildings and Accommodation

- GBMet operates from five sites: Pelham Street and Brighton East Campus (Wilson Avenue) in Brighton, Shoreham Airport, Broadwater and West Durrington Campuses in Worthing
- All support teaching rooms in our buildings are accessible and have lifts. Some general rooms in Pelham Street can only be accessed by stairs
- There are accessible toilets in all our buildings.
- There is a variety of assistive technology, including hardware and software, available in the Learning Resource Centres and Flexible Learning areas.

Learners may also borrow equipment from the Additional Learning Support department for use in class

Examinations and Assessments

The **Equality Act 2010** requires us to make reasonable adjustments for disabled students so that they are not placed at a substantial disadvantage in comparison with non-disabled students.

As part of this, reasonable adjustments must be made for exams in order to make them more accessible to students with impairments or learning difficulties.

Appropriate arrangements will be made for students who have been assessed as needing support.

Awarding bodies allow access arrangements such as extra time or a reader for exams and other assessments for some people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. They may need some information about the reasonable adjustments you might need for assessment.

Depending on the type of access arrangement being requested they may ask for a letter from your GP or specialist, an Educational Psychologist's report or some other documentation. These documents may only be valid for a fixed period and must include specific information required by the awarding body.

As soon as you start College, we will talk to you about the access arrangements you may need. You may be asked to provide documentation or the College may be able to organise an assessment for you.

Find out more

We are happy to talk to learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (or parents, carers, advocates if you prefer) about coming to College and the services we have:

Head of Additional Learning Support:

Fenella Potterton: fenella.potterton@gbmc.ac.uk

Brighton

SEND Manager: Melanie Heaven melanie.heaven@gbmc.ac.uk

Assessment Coordinator (for exams): Sarah Brooker: sarah.brooker@gbmc.ac.uk

Or: learningsupportbrighton@gbmc.ac.uk

Worthing

SEND Manager: Jackie Frost: Jackie.frost@gbmc.ac.uk

Assessment Coordinator (for exams): Delyth Henderson:

delyth.henderson@gbmc.ac.uk

Or: learningsupportworthing@gbmc.ac.uk

Learners wishing to discuss **Inclusion courses** including ALDD courses, should contact the Head of Inclusion Jane Grealish: jane.grealish@gbmc.ac.uk or the Inclusion Administrator Harri Nelson: 01273 667788 ex 497 (Brighton and Worthing)
Please tell us your views

Your feedback is really important as it lets us know what we are doing well and if we get something wrong, it helps us to learn from our mistakes.

If you would like to give feedback or make a complaint, please contact the Head of Additional Learning Support:

Fenella Potterton fenella.potterton@gbmc.ac.uk or use the College Feedback procedures:

<https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/brighton/contact/feedback-and-complaints>