**Disability Services** at Roehampton are committed to offering a confidential support and development service to disabled students.

This guide is designed for parents and carers of students with disabilities such as:

* physical or long term health conditions
* sensory needs or mental health conditions
* Specific Learning Differences (SpLD) such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, ADHD or Autism

It will provide background information so you can guide your young person to access relevant help and support at Roehampton.

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| **Student Responsibility**N:\Documents\Photos & images\student.png | We would expect students to take responsibility for their own life while at the University of Roehampton. We encourage a model of self-advocacy. Therefore it is important that students work towards understanding their disability, strengths, needs, challenges and what works best for them. There is a wide range of support available at the University and staff are all trained in their area of expertise to encourage and promote student independence.  |
| **Attending Appointments****N:\Documents\Photos & images\Meeting.png** | It is not typical for parents and/or carers to accompany students to appointments with a member of Disability Services; however, with the student's permission, parents and carers can attend. This might happen when the student feels that they would benefit from support from a parent or carer during the appointment, but we encourage students to lead conversations/meetings themselves. |

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| **Contact from** **Parents and Carers** N:\Documents\Photos & images\sign post.png | We appreciate parents and carers may from time to time have concerns. If you feel you need to contact Disability Services directly we will aim to be helpful and will provide advice in general terms about how students at University are supported. However, we are not able to discuss any aspect of students’ support or academic progress with parents, relatives or friends. We hope parents and carers will understand the need to ensure that any information we hold regarding students remains confidential at all times. Our priority is to support the student directly and provide a confidential service to them. |
| N:\Documents\Photos & images\Policy.png**The University’s Data Protection Policy** states: | *“The University will ensure that personal data are not disclosed to unauthorised third parties which includes family members, friends, government bodies, and in certain circumstances, the police.”* |
| **How you can help your student?**N:\Documents\Photos & images\Help.png | If your student confides in you they are struggling with their course, encourage them to **contact us** directly about their support needs; we are here to help. You can also find additional information on our website <http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/disability-services/> |

