

# STUDYING AT MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY WHEN BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED



# WELCOME TO MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY



**My confidence has gone up from 3 to 7 since starting university.**



If you are studying with a Visual Impairment, you may require some additional support to ensure you can access all academic and support services while at university. The severity and impact of your visual impairment is likely to vary greatly to others but we can tailor a support package to meet your specific needs.

Students who are visually impaired might not think of themselves as disabled. Nevertheless, the Equality Act 2010 covers severe and partial sight impairment and a range of supports are available to ensure that you have the best possible student experience.

Where possible we build accessibility into our programmes and our campus but we recognise that students affected by visual impairment will need some reasonable adjustments to ensure they can meet the challenges of higher education study.

Our Disability and Dyslexia Service arranges support packages to ensure equality of opportunity and can help students to apply for and arrange government funded disability support via the Disabled Students Allowance.

# WHAT TYPE OF SUPPORT WILL I GET?



**It's been brilliant, I got the resources that I need to do my degree and now I'm getting firsts.**

At Middlesex we are committed to ensuring our learning, teaching and assessment methods are inclusive. Within your programme you will experience a range of methods to enhance your learning delivered through a blend of live sessions and on demand content within a structured manner. Support for your academic development can be sought through your personal tutor and key specialist support areas.

We offer a range of **study modes:**  
[www.mdx.ac.uk/study-with-us](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/study-with-us)

All computers on campus have **specialist software** installed which enable students to access academic writing support. **APPS ANYWHERE** ensures software is made available off campus too, on personally owned devices.

Visually impaired students are also likely to need individual adjustments. These will be arranged following an assessment with a Disability Adviser and may include some of the following:

- Exam papers and class handouts can be provided in the font size you need and advance access to online reading lists and class materials will be available
- Guide dogs can be accommodated
- Orientation sessions can be provided to so that you can become familiar with the campus layout
- Practical assistance with moving around the campus
- A Library buddy and access to alternative format library resources



# DISABLED STUDENTS ALLOWANCE (DSA)

# NORTH LONDON REGIONAL ACCESS CENTRE

You may be eligible for Disabled Students Allowances; a government funded support package which provides assistance with equipment, software and travel, Sign Language Interpreters, Specialist note takers and Tutors for the Deaf.

DSA support comes from your funding body rather than your University but our Disability Advisers can help you to navigate the process. We can talk you through the different application stages, assist with completing the application

form and even call the DSA team with you if you have queries about the progress of your application.

It can take up to 16 weeks to complete the DSA application process so please do apply as early as possible. Applications open the Spring before your programme starts. You'll find details and the application forms on the government's DSA website.

[www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas)

As part of your application for the Disabled Students Allowance you will need to attend a government funded Needs Assessment. We have a Needs Assessment Centre on campus based in the Sheppard Library.

**It takes longer than you may expect to arrange disability support. It can take up to 16 weeks so please do start the process as early as possible.**

The North London Regional Access Centre (NLRAC) is a registered centre and offers Study Needs Assessment appointments for students who have been made eligible for Disabled Students' Allowance.

Appointments can be accessed at Middlesex University or at one of our outreach centres, a full list of NLRAC centres, please visit our website: [www.mdx.ac.uk/access-centre](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/access-centre)

To book an appointment, please contact us:

**Tel:** 0208 411 5366

**Mob:** 07792 663 197

**Email:** [adminac@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:adminac@mdx.ac.uk)

**Web:** [www.mdx.ac.uk/access-centre](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/access-centre)

# WHO CAN I TALK TO ABOUT MY SUPPORT?

## THE DISABILITY AND DYSLEXIA SERVICE (DDS)

DDS are based in Sunny Hill House and have a team of Disability Advisors who can support you throughout your degree.

If you're thinking about studying at Middlesex then our Disability Advisors are here to answer your questions.

A Disability Adviser can advise about:

- The type of support available
- Disabled Students' Allowances
- Communicating with your tutor and other students
- Adjustments to assessments and examinations
- Any worries or concerns that you have about how your disability may affect your life as a student

### LEARNING SUPPORT FORM

Once you've disclosed and evidenced your disability a Disability Adviser will arrange your support package. We prefer to work with you before your programme starts if possible so that everything is in place for the start of term. Your support package will be summarised in a Learning Support Form which will detail the reasonable adjustments that will be put in place for you and include details of your learning and teaching needs, exam recommendations and library support.

With your permission, the Learning Support form will be sent to your faculty and will be distributed to your module leaders.

# WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?



### DISCLOSE YOUR DISABILITY IN YOUR UCAS FORM OR MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY APPLICATION FORM

If you let us know about your disability when you apply to us we will contact you with our Disability Questionnaire so that we can start arranging your support.



### START ARRANGING YOUR MEDICAL EVIDENCE

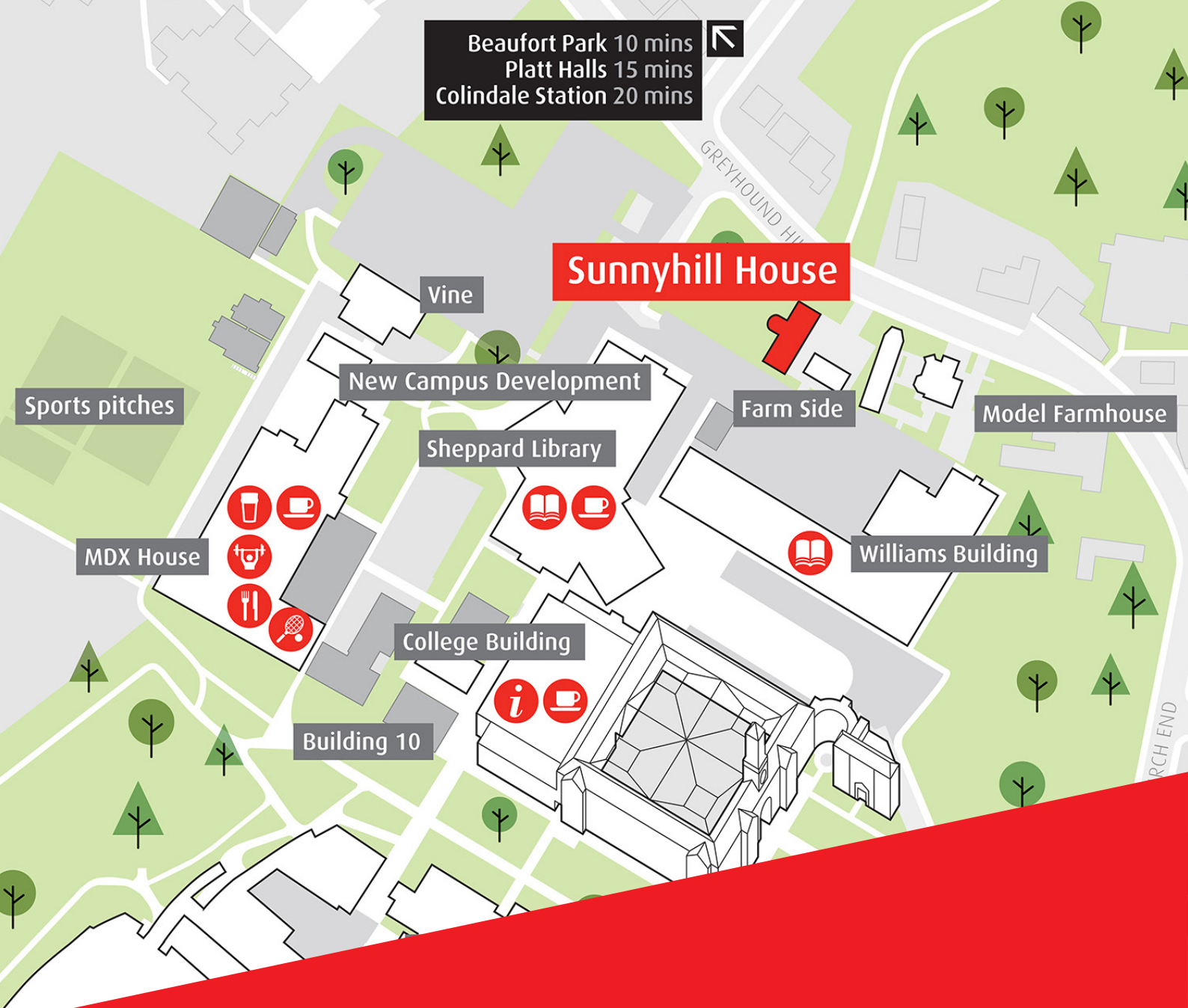
You will need to provide some medical evidence before your support can be arranged. This may be something you already have or something you ask your Doctor to write especially for us. This would typically be a letter or report from your GP including the following information:

- Your diagnosis
- The impact this will have on your studies / daily life
- Contact our Disability Service



### CONTACT OUR DISABILITY SERVICE

You can also disclose your disability directly to our Disability Service and you might want to ask a Disability Adviser some questions about your support. You can reach us by phone and email all year round.



## CONTACT US

### Disability and Dyslexia Service

Sunny Hill House  
Middlesex University  
The Burroughs  
London  
NW4 4BT

**Phone:** 020 8411 5366

**Email:** [disability@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:disability@mdx.ac.uk)

**Web:** [www.mdx.ac.uk](http://www.mdx.ac.uk)

Applicants can also send us a query  
via our enquiry form

[www.mdx.ac.uk/student-life/  
student-support](http://www.mdx.ac.uk/student-life/student-support)