



Inclusive Design

Inclusive Practice is about acknowledging the diversity of students. Diversity has many forms.

- **Cultural diversity:** students from diverse backgrounds and cultural traditions or with little experience of traditional western 'academic' learning
- **Linguistic diversity;** students working in a second or third language whose oral skills outstrip literacy skills,
- **Neuro diversity:** students with ADHD, dyslexia, SpLD etc who may struggle with learning based on reading and notetaking,
- **Sensory diversity:** students with visual or audio impairment for whom traditional reading and notetaking activities may pose challenges.

The Equality Act

[The Equality Act \(2010\)](#) puts a duty on institutions to make reasonable adjustments to ensure equality of access and participation. The Act lists nine protected characteristics. Of these, disability is often the one associated with inclusion.

The Social Model of disability views barriers to access as being external and in the built environment. These can be removed to create accessibility. This contrasts with the Medical Model which views the individual as being 'disabled'.

Principles of inclusive design

The principles of inclusive design state that **changes for some can create an improved environment for all**. When it comes to making teaching and learning content inclusive and accessible for some this often improves access for everyone. The University's [Diverse Learners poster](#) offers useful tips for ensuring equal access in design.

References

Panopto video: [Introducing inclusive practice with teaching and learning with Microsoft Word and Powerpoint:](#)

University of Hull Guide to [Marking SpLD Students' Work](#)

University of Plymouth: [Seven Steps series on inclusive approaches to teaching and learning](#)

University of Sheffield: [Inclusive Learning and Teaching Handbook](#)

Jisc: [6 accessibility tips for teaching staff](#)

Jisc: [Institutional practice and accessible technology](#)

University of Plymouth: [Working with mature students](#)