

How to Manage Your Dyslexia at NCAD

Managing any disability effectively at third level involves the utilisation of a number of available services and tools. It is also vital that each individual student takes responsibility for their own academic career at NCAD. The aim of the NCAD Student Learning Support Service is to allow all students registered with the service become independent learners so they can develop the skills expected of successful graduates and take these skills into their future careers as artists, designers and educators. The following guidelines are designed to help you to reach that goal.

Communication

It is important that you communicate with NCAD about your dyslexia in order to overcome any disadvantages resulting from your learning difficulty.

1. You should register with the Learning Support Service as soon as possible after you enter NCAD/receive a diagnosis from an educational psychologist. Attending a needs assessment will ensure that you receive the appropriate supports. exams.
2. You will receive a Profile of Needs (PONS) from Student Learning Support following your needs assessment. This confirms that you are registered with Learning Support and outlines the supports you receive. Your PONS will be send to the Head of your Department, with your consent, to allow for appropriate accommodations be put in place.

Supports available:

Learning Support Service

Provides a range of workshops and individual tutorials on all aspects of the writing process. For information please go to: <https://www.ncad.ie/students/support-services/student-learning-support-service/>

Assistive Technology

There is a range of Assistive Technology resources available for students in NCAD. These consist of software and devices many of which can help students with a dyslexia to successfully perform day-to-day tasks in college. The AT Specialist will talk you through the various resources that are available. Assistive Technology of particular interest to students with dyslexia includes:

Recording Tool - Livescribe Smartpen

The Livescribe Smartpen is an electronic pen that has a built-in recorder. The pen synchronizes the recording with the notes taken by the student in class. Afterwards the student can click on any part of their notes and the pen will play back what the lecturer was saying at that time.

Learning Support

NCAD's Student Learning Support service provides learning support primarily through individual tutorials and group workshops. Tutorials and workshops are designed to help you learn the skills you need to succeed at college. Learning support workshops include, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- o Note taking
- o Time management and organisation
- o Study skills
- o Academic writing
- o Research skills
- o Presentations and group work
- o Avoiding Plagiarism

Student Counselling Service

Provide a free and confidential service staffed by professionally qualified psychologists and counsellors. NCAD aims to provide easily accessible support for students when personal issues arise that affect their happiness, well-being, capacity to cope, relationships or learning. For information please go to: <https://www.ncad.ie/students/support-services/>

Useful Online Resources

- www.dyslexia.ie
- <http://dyslexstudyskills.group.shef.ac.uk/index.html>

If you find that you are having any difficulties in NCAD please contact us as soon as possible!

learningsupport@staff.ncad.ie

assistivetechonology@staff.ncad.ie

counsellor@staff.ncad.ie

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