

Disability in Higher Education Advisory Panel rules of procedure

Scope of rules of procedure

1. These rules of procedure apply on and from 1 April 2026 to the Disability in Higher Education Advisory Panel.

Provisions that apply to the committee

2. The validity of any proceedings (including quorum) is not to be affected by a vacancy among the members or by any defect in the appointment of a member.
3. All words and expressions in this document are to be interpreted in accordance with Part 9 of the OfS scheme of delegation.

Members

4. The Disability in Higher Education Advisory Panel (hereafter 'the panel') is a committee of the board, and consists of up to eighteen members, including:
 - a. a chair who must be an OfS staff member at pay band 12 or above; and
 - b. up to two deputy chairs who must be OfS staff members at pay band 11 or above;
 - c. any combination of the following persons:
 - i. other OfS staff members; and
 - ii. other natural persons that are neither members of the OfS nor OfS staff members (hereafter 'Representative panel members').
5. It is expected that Representative panel members will have relevant experience and seniority to act as a representative on disability in higher education for a key stakeholder group or organisation. Members should represent the views of their organisation and members.
6. The panel has been developed to reflect a range of views and experiences relevant to disabled students in higher education. The panel is advisory to the OfS and is therefore not required to reach consensus.
7. As at 28 May 2026, the nominated Representative members are as follows:
 - a. Dr Emma Maslin, Senior Policy and Research Officer - Association of Managers of Students Services in Higher Education (AMOSSHE)

- b. Professor Deborah Johnston, Deputy Vice Chancellor – London South Bank University, Chair - Disabled Student Commitment (DSC), and Disability and Access Ambassador for Universities
- c. Sophie Mattholie, Director of Fundraising and Policy, Disabled Students UK - Disabled Students UK (DSUK)
- d. Abigail Hamer, Legal Principal - Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC)
- e. Jacquie Shanahan, Member - Lived Experience for Action Right Now (LEARN) network
- f. Alice Speller, Chief Executive Officer - National Association of Disability Practitioners (NADP)
- g. Jo Nuckley, Head of Outreach and Insight - Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education (OIA)
- h. Rosie Tressler, Chief Executive Officer - Student Minds

Chair

- 8. The chair of the panel is the Interim Director of Quality and Access.
- 9. In the absence of the panel chair, a meeting of the panel will be chaired by another member who is also a member of the OfS.

Meetings

- 10. At least two meetings will be scheduled within the panel's term.
- 11. The panel will be convened as required by the chair of the OfS, chair or deputy chair of the panel, chief executive, or any director of the OfS.
- 12. Meetings of the panel may be held in person or by video or teleconferencing (or any combination of such methods).
- 13. In lieu of a meeting of the panel, advice from members may be provided by correspondence (including by email).

Reporting

- 14. The panel may provide a written report to the OfS board on the activities of the panel after each panel meeting. The matters reported on may vary from time to time and may focus on matters the chair of the panel considers of be of particular interest to the OfS board. However, any failure to provide a report to the OfS board will not in any way affect the validity of any other advice or assurance provided by the panel.