

Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Severe, Profound and Complex)

AdCert, BPhil, PGCert, PGDip, MEd Distance Education

Is this programme for you?

This programme is written for the range of professionals/practitioners who work with children and adults with learning difficulties and disabilities across the severe, profound and complex range. Most children and adults with severe, profound and complex needs use specialist services such as special schools or adult day services but some use inclusive services such as mainstream schools or community education. The programme will cover issues for staff who work in any of these services with a particular emphasis on learning and development. As this is a School of Education, education is at the forefront. It will, however, be education in the broadest sense as part of life long learning as well as part of schooling or college.



What does the programme offer?

Modules

1 Understanding Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Severe, Profound and Complex)

This first module aims to establish the nature of severe, profound and complex learning difficulties and disabilities and introduce the provision and services that are currently available for both children and adults.

2 Interventions for People with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Severe, Profound and Complex)

The second module is based on the practicalities of designing, implementing and evaluating interventions for children and adults with learning difficulties and disabilities associated with social care, health and therapy and education.

3 Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Severe, Profound and Complex): Communication and Behaviour

Module three is designed to encourage participants to explore, in detail, two central and connected aspects of working with children and adults with learning difficulties and disabilities: communication and behaviour that challenges.

4 Working Together to Meet the Needs of People with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Severe, Profound and Complex)

The fourth module is focused on organisational issues and participants are introduced to ways of organising learners for both formal and informal learning.

5 Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Severe, Profound and Complex): Life Long Learning

The fifth module enables participants to explore in more detail aspects of life long learning, particularly in formal settings such as schools and colleges, although informal teaching and learning are also discussed.

6 Special Studies in Special Education and Educational Psychology

A special study or project is a small-scale study which carries 20 or 40 credits. It is an opportunity for participants to explore any topic related to the programme which is of a practical nature, such as setting up and evaluating an intervention or conducting small-scale research in your own organisation.

| Study and Awards | |
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| AdCert | Modules 1–3 (Honours Level) |
| BPhil | Modules 1–3 plus a choice of Modules 4–6 and dissertation |
| PGCert | Modules 1–3 (Masters Level) |
| PGDip | Modules 1–6 |
| MEd | Modules 1–5 plus research methods module and dissertation |

How do you study?

The programme is primarily delivered through distance education, students will learn at their own pace and in their own homes and workplaces. Study is supported through study packs, online materials, discussions and interaction, and through an allocated tutor in a small tutorial group which allows students contact. There is University based weekend residential twice a year.

What are the entry requirements?

Standard University entry requirements apply.

How do you apply?

If you require an application form please contact the School of Education on 0121 414 4866 or at education@bham.ac.uk giving your name and address. An early application is advised as places are allocated on a first come first served basis.

Learn more

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NB If you are interested in this programme and work in a country other than the UK, please note that the term severe, profound and complex learning difficulties and disabilities refers to what is described as mental retardation, severe developmental disabilities or severe intellectual disabilities elsewhere in the world. The course covers the most disabled children and adults in our society. In many countries these children and adults live in institutions and do not attend school nor join in community activities such as paid work. This programme does NOT cover dyslexia.

