Acceptable Diagnostic Evidence for Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs) & ADHD

If you have a specific learning difficulty (such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, dysgraphia, or dyscalculia), or ADHD, you may be required to provide evidence of your diagnosis in order to access support. Evidence of your diagnosis would take the form of a diagnostic assessment report. This document provides guidance as to what an acceptable diagnostic assessment report should include.

What should a diagnostic assessment report include?

The University has established criteria for what is an acceptable diagnostic report for a specific learning difficulty or ADHD. In order to meet this criteria the report must be:

A full diagnostic assessment report carried out by:

- Practitioner Psychologists registered with the HCPC (Health and Care Professions Council), or
- Specialist Teachers holding a Current Practising Certificate in SpLD Assessment (the report should give the certificate number and issuing body)

Please note that “top up” assessments are not acceptable nor are copies of the JCQ Form 8. However, the University accepts Evaluation of Need assessments that have been carried out in accordance with SASC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please note that in the case of ADHD, a medical letter from an appropriate Health Professional (such as a GP, an adult psychiatrist, or a consultant at a specialist ADHD clinic, for example) is acceptable in place of a full diagnostic assessment report. Letters from Health Professionals should be on headed paper which includes their full address and role title. They should be dated, signed and scanned into an accessible PDF format. Letters should include:

- The date you were seen, with your full name, date of birth, and address
- A clear statement of the ADHD diagnosis
- The date when the condition was first diagnosed
- A clear statement indicating how ADHD impacts on your day-to-day activities with reference to study
**How can I share my diagnostic report (or medical letter for ADHD) with the ADRC?**

The diagnostic assessment report (or medical letter for ADHD) can be uploaded into your online Student Information Form the first time you fill it this form. If you are submitting evidence after filling in the Student Information Form please do so via the Contact Us form, or disability@admin.cam.ac.uk.

If you wish to be considered for exam access arrangements please also send a copy of your diagnostic assessment report or medical letter to your College Tutorial Office, as your college (not the ADRC) is responsible for applying for exam access arrangements. You may also wish to apply for Disabled Students’ Allowances (DSAs) and the diagnostic report or medical letter will act as evidence for the application.