SUPPORTING DISABLED STUDENTS POLICY

Union Notes:
1. Students registered with disability services are offered additional support in order to ensure they receive the same opportunity to succeed in their education as students without disabilities.
2. Despite there being over 2888* disabled students enrolled at Leeds Beckett University, there are only 14 computers between the two university libraries disability resource rooms.
3. That people with disabilities are twice as likely to live in poverty as people without disabilities, disabled students may therefore find it hard to pay for their own equipment and rely on the use of the university resource rooms to study.
4. Disabled students are often forgotten when planning access needs at events and on campus.

Union Believes
1. All students, regardless of any disability, have the right to receive the same quality education as other students.
2. That disabled students are amongst the hardest hit by government reforms and cuts.
3. Students with disabilities should be treated with respect and dignity and their opinions should be taken into account.
4. There should be more resources such as computers and space available for disabled students in order to enhance and maximise disabled students learning experience.
5. Disabled students should be key stakeholders, ensuring that they are a visible element in marches, events and demonstrations and particularly in discussions related to access.

Union Resolves
1. To lobby the university to promote and participate in events designed to raise awareness of particular disabilities and related disorders (i.e. International Autism Awareness Day, 1st April).
2. To encourage the university to audit the usage of disability resource rooms, identify users and survey their experiences, and subsequently increase the level of resources to reflect disabled student’s needs.
3. To oppose the proposed cuts to the disabled students allowance.
4. To lobby the university to consult students with disabilities with regards to accessibility planning throughout all university buildings.

* Figures correct on 13 October 2015

1 http://www.lcdisability.org/?lid=6386