



MTU
Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University



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Munster Technological University

MTU Cork campus Disability Support Service (DSS)

Parents/Guardians of New students

dssCork@mtu.ie
www.mycit.ie/dss
September 2022




WELCOME


www.mtu.ie

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DSS staff today




MTU
Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University



Laura Coleman
DISABILITY SUPPORT
OFFICER



Ruth Murphy
DISABILITY PROJECTS
OFFICER



Mary O Sullivan
DISABILITY PROJECTS
OFFICER

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Agenda



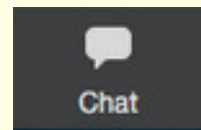
- 18.30 Welcome**
- 18.35 Key information on starting college @ MTU**
- 18 45 Your changing role and supporting your student / confidentiality**
- 18.55 DSS supports – overview**
- 19.15 Questions**
- 19.30 Finish**

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Event guidelines



- Event will be recorded but we won't include any queries that identify someone. This will be put up on the DSS website. We ask that any attendees don't record this either.
- We encourage you to turn on your video but you don't have to.
- Please be respectful and don't interrupt if someone is speaking.
- We will use the Chat to give you links and information.
- Use the Chat function if you need to tell us any issues with the event.
- Follow the rules of asking questions.



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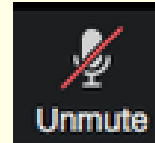
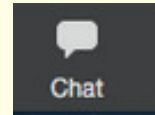
Event guidelines



There is time for questions after each section.

You can ask general questions on Zoom by:

- **Using the Chat icon to type a question to Everyone**
- **Or during the question times, you can unmute yourself and ask your question.**



One of the team will answer the question live or answer it in the chat.

Or you can message with a specific or private question to Mary O'Sullivan in Zoom or **email dssCork@mtu.ie** We will come back to you after the event.

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Key things to know about college



- University year is in 2 semesters – 50% is usually done by Christmas. But first years may get assignments Christmas week.



- **Full time students will be studying mostly on campus.**
- **Part-time evening students may be largely online.**



<https://www.mtu.ie/news/mtu-academic-year-2022-2023>

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Key 2022/23 MTU starting dates



- **First year Orientation:** 19 - 23 September on Bishopstown campus. Email about your online course registration.
www.cit.ie/admissions/registration/year-1
- **Good Start Student ambassadors:** #GoodStart22
<https://studentengagement.cit.ie/goodstart>
- **First year classes start on Monday 26th September.** Online timetables available just before then – but these may change!



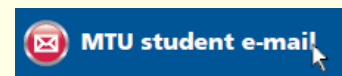
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Key things to know about college



MTU communicates with students through:

1. **MTU student email** and
2. **through Canvas** - the online app where students access lecture notes, submit assignments, or do any online exams.



Students should both on their phone and check them daily!



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Access laptop loan scheme



- First year students who are DARE eligible, also in receipt of special rate SUSI grant and who confirm need will automatically qualify to apply for a laptop.
- The DSS/Access Service will email DARE eligible and other Access students to their MTU student email.
- If students are not DARE eligible and/or don't receive SUSI, you can apply through the Student Assistance Fund.



www.mycit.ie/access_disability/student-assistance-fund/government-laptop-scheme

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Financial support



- **Student Assistance Fund:** For costs of going to college plus fast-track application for laptop (online applications now open)

www.mycit.ie/saf



- **1916 Bursaries** available for first time undergraduate students who meet criteria: www.soarforaccess.ie/1916-bursary-fund



- **HEAR:** If a student was also HEAR eligible – they will get financial support as part of their offer – hearCork@mtu.ie



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Accommodation



Deirdre Falvey,
Accommodation Officer,
MTU Student Centre, 1st Floor,
Bishopstown Campus.
T: 021 4335750
E: accommodationCork@mtu.ie



www.mycit.ie/accommodation

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Questions?



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Your changing role - Confidentiality



Students = adults over 18

GDPR – data protection means:

- The university deals with the student directly.
- Needs consent from student in writing to share any information each time.



MTU Cork DSS operates a strict confidentiality policy.

We cannot disclose any information about the student registration, academic progress, to parents, lecturers, etc., unless we have the student's consent, or unless there is a health and safety risk.

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Supporting the student



- ✓ **Planning their day** – going to college - transport, lectures, lunch, money management.
- ✓ **Managing their time** - using calendars on phone - reminders about deadlines, etc.
- ✓ **Being aware of attendance** - This may be monitored, and some classes/ labs are mandatory.
- ✓ **Making friends** – join clubs and societies
- ✓ **Asking for help** from course coordinator, lecturers, support services, etc.

Don't forget to allow for mistakes!

Balancing academic, social and work life takes time 😊

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Supporting the student



Encourage and support the student to engage with relevant supports and develop/maintain good habits, such as...

- ✓ Check MTU student email/Canvas every day (on phone)
- ✓ Download and save notes from Canvas into module folders
- ✓ Communicate directly with lecturers, support services, etc., to check/clarify assignments, procedures etc. – by email.
- ✓ Be aware of the use of social media in college.



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Questions?



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What is the DSS (Disability Support Service)?



The DSS supports a range of students with learning differences, health conditions or disabilities when studying at MTU, who may need support to access their course.



We support full-time and part-time students across all of MTU Cork campuses and who are studying online.

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Who do we support?



Over **1000 students** with:

- Specific learning differences, including dyslexia and dyscalculia
- ADD/ADHD
- Dyspraxia (DCD) and dysgraphia
- Autism Spectrum
- Physical disabilities
- Blind/ Vision Loss
- Significant ongoing illnesses
- Deaf/ Hearing Loss
- Mental health
- Speech and language



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Meet the DSS team!



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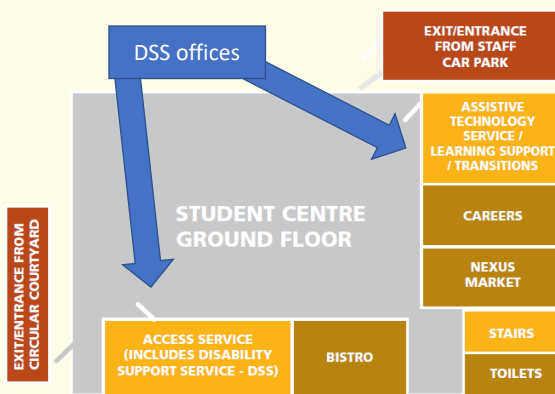
DSS - Bishopstown

<https://youtu.be/FZlky8F2ZeE>



- **Students need to book meetings with DSS staff.**
- Emily Clifford, Access Service Administrator, at front desk - 021 433 5138

Map of Student Centre, Bishopstown Campus

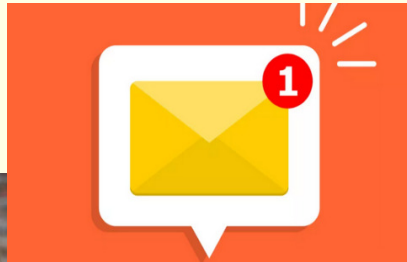


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DSS team – Email queries



Ruth



Mary

The quickest way to reach us is emailing dssCork@mtu.ie

2022-09-14

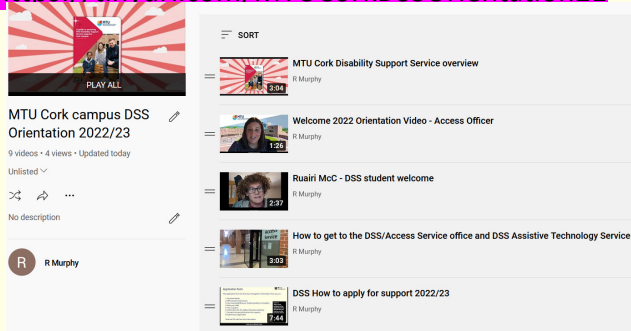
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DSS information



<https://tinivurl.com/MTUCorkDSSOrientation21>



www.mycit.ie/dssstudentguide



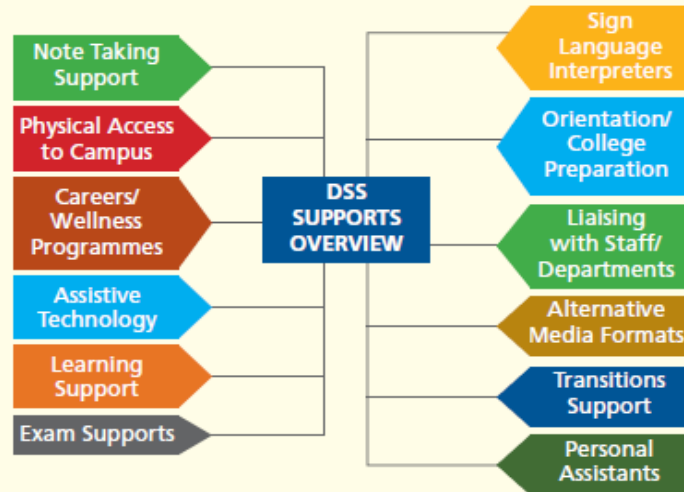
**DSS Student Orientation on campus
Saturday 17th September 9.30-12.00pm**

Dedicated Canvas module



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DSS Supports



All DSS supports are confirmed in a student's needs assessment

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DSS Learning Support



1:1 support from learning support staff in different campuses -

<https://youtu.be/Xw58RLZu6oA>

www.mycit.ie/access_disability/disability-support-service/learning-support

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DSS Learning Support session



Tips
On:

College Preparation

Manage
Your Time



Organise
Yourself



Timetable
Assignments



Priorities



Learning Support online session Tuesday 20 Sept 10.00am-11.30am

https://DSS_LearningS_ONLINE_Sept22.eventbrite.ie

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DSS Assistive Technology (AT) Service



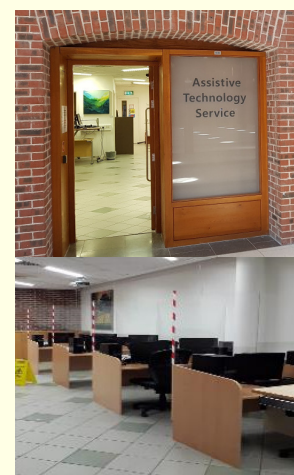
Dedicated computer lab with AT software for DSS students ONLY

- ✓ Bookable room for speech to text use
- ✓ Workshops and training
- ✓ Software installed to help students with their studies – also available around campuses
- ✓ YouTube channel with online guides: www.youtube.com/user/AccessATS

Mark Burleigh Full time DSS AT Officer based in the Student

Centre - Mark.Burleigh@mtu.ie

<https://youtu.be/kiP3ezRghzA>



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Assistive Technology session



Tools for Reading & Writing online session Tuesday 20 Sept 12-1pm

https://DSSAT_ONLINE_Sept22.eventbrite.ie

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Transitions Programme



One to one Support for autistic new MTU students
during first year of university



Online talk at Wednesday 21st September, 6.30-7.30pm

Book your place at: https://DSSTransitions_Sept22.eventbrite.ie

2022 PREPARE Guide available soon: www.mycit.ie/prepare

Contact Julie O'Donovan, Transition Programme Co-Ordinator
JulieA.ODonovan@mtu.ie <https://youtu.be/9ThIsSb6v78>



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Examination Supports



Examination supports are available such as 10 minutes per hour Extra time, or smaller shared /separate exam room

Generally, DSS students use technology in exams and some supports differ to those in previous education:



- **Reading software** instead of readers / **Typing** instead of scribes.
- **Marking guidelines** instead of a spelling and grammar waiver.

Exam Supports are confirmed in DSS student Needs Assessment document, and facilitated on request from the student on each campus.

- <http://www.mycit.ie/examinations/support/>

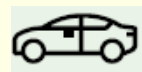
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DSS Supports



- **Students should contact us as soon as possible if they need any of the following supports:**

- ISL interpreter/speed text
- Access to disabled parking, transport, physical access to buildings
- Personal assistant to support you physically access the campus and/or personal care
- Mobility training or alternative format for students with a visual impairment



Email dssCork@mtu.ie

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Questions



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How to apply for DSS supports?

- **STEP 1: Fill out Online Application Form:**
www.mycit.ie/access_disability/disability-support-service/registering
- **STEP 2: Submit documents by email** www.mycit.ie/documents-needed
(DSS already has copies of documents from CAO/DARE). Attend classes and sign up to DSS Canvas module /go to DSS sessions
- **STEP 3: Have a needs assessment which confirms DSS supports / reasonable accommodations.** Students may have either a 1:1 or group meeting with DSS staff. The needs assessment document is sent to MTU student email. Students may be waiting a few weeks to be contacted by the DSS especially in September/October.



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Needs assessment /supports



- The needs assessment document lists the supports/reasonable accommodations a student is entitled to.
- It is the student's document – they decide what to do with it.
- And it's their responsibility to engage with supports recommended in their needs assessment and email – such as making appointments, emailing the document to lecturers, etc.
- If a student is having a problem, please to speak to your lecturer, course-coordinator, or head of department or contact us!

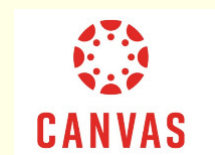


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MTU Supports: www.mycit.ie



- ✓ Academic Learning Centre – free subject classes
- ✓ Academic Success Coaching
- ✓ Student's Union
- ✓ Access Service – financial help /HEAR/ Mature students
- ✓ Careers Service
- ✓ Counselling Service
- ✓ Medical Centre & ERT
- ✓ Sports, Clubs and Societies
- ✓ IT Support and Canvas help

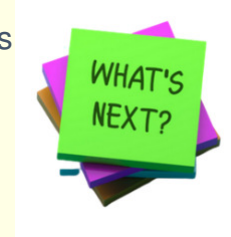


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What's Next?



- Register for course / attend MTU Orientation – get to know campus
- Set up MTU email and Canvas
- Fill out DSS Online Application Form/ Sign up for DSS Canvas module / look over DSS guide/orientation videos
- **If the student is having a problem, please get them to contact their lecturer, course-coordinator, or head of department, or contact us!**



dssCork@mtu.ie

Instagram: @mtucork_dss **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/mtucorkdss

Twitter: @MTUCork_DSS

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Reminder – DSS events



When?	What?
Saturday 17 Sept 9.00am-12.00pm	DSS Orientation on campus for new students - Bishopstown
Tues 20 Sept 10.00-11.30am	Learning Support skills online workshop for new students: notetaking, writing and studying.
Tues 20 Sept 12-1pm	Assistive technology tools for reading/writing skills online workshop for new students
Wed 21 Sept 6.30-7.30pm	DSS Transitions programme for new students on the autism spectrum online talk – for new students/parents/guardians

Book a place at: www.mycit.ie/access_disability/disability-support-service/new_incoming_students

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Thank you for coming and any final questions?



2022-09-14

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