Accessibility and Inclusion in Tuition (AccIT)

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A project designed to support STEM ALs in their tuition for disabled students

AccIT aims

The AccIT project has four main aims:

1. To develop understanding of accessibility issues in STEM tuition.
2. To raise awareness of these needs amongst STEM staff including tutors, tutor and student support staff, accessibility staff and module teams.
3. To gather evidence and examples of how STEM tutors adapt their tuition practice to respond to disabled students' needs.
4. To develop a toolkit / case studies to share good practice and provide STEM tutors with tools to support and improve accessibility in their tuition practice.

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Project Phases

Phase 1 – Semi structured interviews with STEM tutors (n=10-15) to develop examples of accessible and inclusive tuition practice.

Phase 2 – Review and development of STEM examples and case studies in a collaborative eSTEeM conference workshop and with the disabled students' group.

Phase 3 – Pilot draft toolkit / case studies during STEM 20J module presentations.

Phase 4 – Internal and external dissemination.

Scope

The scope of this project includes face-to-face and online tuition but also goes beyond that to cover other practices within AL control. For example, communications to build trust and relationships, tutor group forums, TMA feedback and feedforward. This will include any additional email and/or telephone tuition that ALs choose to have to support students who have a disability, for example to support them in attending and getting the most out of a tutorial.

eSTEeM
The OU centre for STEM pedagogy