

# Supporting university students with socially challenging behaviours through professional development for teaching staff

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# Socially challenging behaviours?

= behaviour resulting from diagnosed and undiagnosed issues related to disability and medical conditions, including mental health concerns and learning impairments

# The issue

In our role in Student Learning, we became aware of a disconnect between:

- Some students' learning needs
- and staff knowledge and capacity in terms of responding to what are often perceived to be students' challenging behaviours.

# Our response: a workshop for staff

- The workshop is currently titled: *Adaptive Responses to the Challenges of Diverse Student Behaviours* to reflect our change in emphasis from a student's behaviours to a staff member's response.

# Social before academic

Through developing the workshop, we have become more aware of:

- the importance of the 'social' relationship between staff and students as a prerequisite of inclusive teaching and learning in higher education

Thank you!