

Practical challenges

In one college, students routinely came into contact with a large number of staff and found it difficult to cope with this. These students tended to meet different members of staff each day. If a student had a problem and needed to ask for help, they were often unable to find their course tutor (who was, in fact, only on that college site during certain set teaching hours). As a result, effective support was often not available for these students.

We also became aware of practical challenges during our visits. The young people themselves told us about their difficulties in using some college facilities. For example, the most accessible toilet in this college, offering hoisting and changing facilities, was housed a great distance from the teaching rooms most frequently used by the supported learning department. The difficulties in obtaining the keys in order to use this toilet made the problem much worse.