

# The Mental Health in the Curriculum project

## Case study 3



### DSA Needs Assessors BOC

A badged open course for Disabled Students  
Allowance (DSA) needs assessors on how they can  
support distance learning students' mental wellbeing



## Barriers

- DSA needs assessments can be very stressful for students, especially with mental health issues
  - DSA support can be critical for student success
  - There is a lack of training for needs assessors on assessing distance learners' support needs
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## Solutions

Professional development for DSA needs assessors focusing on how assessors can:

- support distance learners' wellbeing in needs assessments
  - make recommendations for support to facilitate mental health in distance learning.
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## Approach

- A badged open course on OpenLearn
  - A collaborative approach, with DSA assessors, disability experts, OU tutors and students on the authoring team
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## Next steps

- Promotion of the course in relevant circles
- Course due to launch on OpenLearn in Autumn 2020