

Advocacy Policy

Representing a student's interests

The [Advocacy policy](#) describes how The Open University enables a student to be represented by someone else on their behalf, called an Advocate, for times when a student is unable or unavailable to represent themselves.

An Advocate may be appointed, for example, for a student who:

- Is under the age of 18 at the point of registration; or
- Has a disability or health condition; or
- Is in the Armed Forces and deployed on activities.

An Advocate can be appointed at any time along the student journey, and an Advocate is expected to be impartial with regard to the student's studies.

A signed form sent electronically with the details of the student and the Advocate is required as part of the appointment process.

Contact your Student Support Team or general-enquiries@open.ac.uk for more information.

Apprenticeship Programme: apprentice-support@open.ac.uk Tel: 0300 3034121

Postgraduate Research: research-degrees-office@open.ac.uk Tel: 44 (0)1908 654 882