



Creating Inclusive
Learning Environments
at Oxford: Reflections
on Abrahart vs
University of Bristol

Katherine Noren, Co-Director SWSS (Disability)



- Failure to make reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010 to prevent disadvantage, disability discrimination and indirect discrimination
- Policies, processes and regulations are not 'the law'
- 'Constructive knowledge' expert judgement not always needed
- Assessment formats ≠ competence standards

## Core principles demonstrated by High Court ruling



- Most students should still register with DAS, but you can make some reasonable adjustments without or before a DAS recommendation
- Proactively anticipating disabled students' needs (embedding inclusive practices) reduces the need for individual adjustments
- You are not alone <u>DAS briefing note</u> and <u>University implementation guidance</u> include example scenarios and support resources

## What does it mean for us?



How do we position these duties within a pedagogically sound enabling framework in which students can grow and develop as active learning partners?

## **Enabling framework**



www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare