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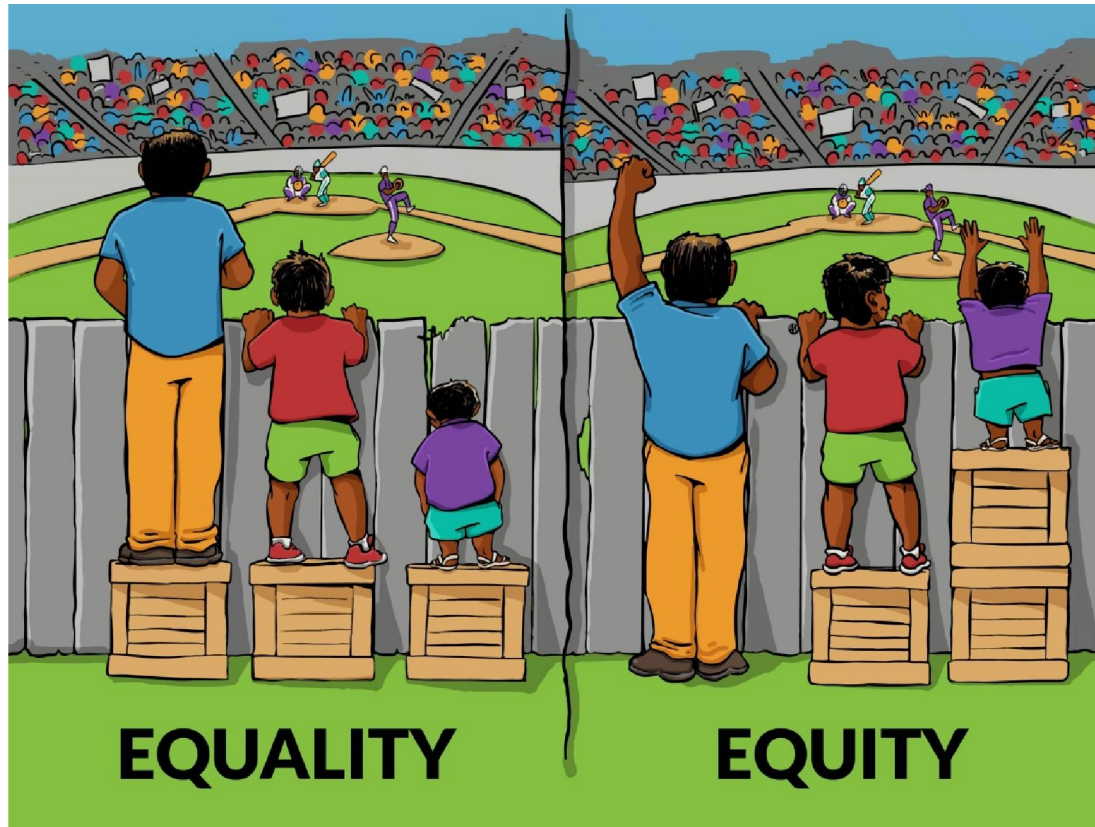
# DSA Changes

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# Equality or Equity?

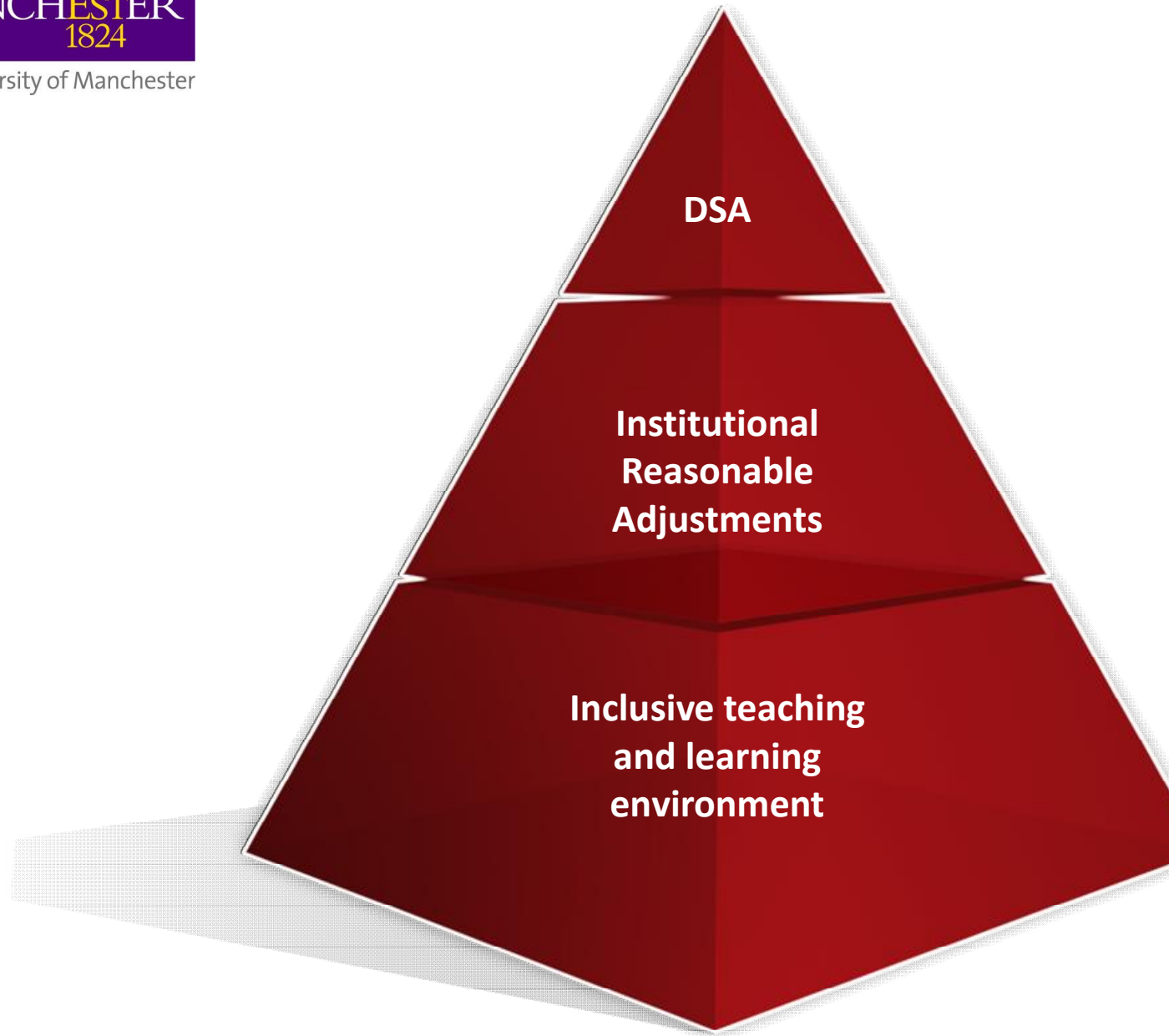


Interaction Institute for Social Change | Artist:  
Angus Maguire (used with permission)

# 'Rebalancing'



- A move away from DSA-funded support towards HEI-funded support
- No (or limited??) additional funding for HEIs vs Costs
- Provision of NMH support
- Universities do not have to fund support for which other funding (such as the DSA) is available



# Extent of the changes

- These changes currently apply to students funded by SFE and the NHS.
- RCUK partial changes
- No changes yet announced by SFW, SAAS, NILB
- Equality Act Duties on HEIs remain the same.

# So ..... the impact on students

- There will be students in a classroom funded by different funding bodies, some with a full DSA package, some with a new-style DSA package, some with no DSA support
- Siblings who have previously received DSA will have younger siblings who won't get DSA in the same way for the same type of condition
- Meeting student (and parent) expectations
- Student entitlements and demands

# Current DSA

- **Equipment Allowance**
  - Laptop, software, printer/scanner, ergonomic furniture
  - Literacy, mind mapping, voice recognition
  - Digital recorder and supporting software
- **NMH Allowance**
  - Note taker / library support worker
  - Specialist tutor / mentor
- **General Allowance**
  - Books & consumables
- **Travel Allowance**

# Planned changes for 2016-2017

- Bands 1 & 2 support workers

“Education Institutions will be expected to develop appropriate mechanisms to fully deliver their statutory duty to provide reasonable adjustments, in particular non-medical help, and to improve the processes by which disabled students can appeal against a Higher Education Institution’s decision that an adjustment would not be reasonable for 2016/17”



# NMH provision moving to HEIs

- Practical Support Assistant
- **Library Support Assistant**
- Readers
- Scribe/Amanuensis
- Workshop / Lab assistant
- Proof reader
- Study Assistant
- Examination Support Workers
- Manual note-takers (including for SpLD)
- Specialist Transcription

# Exceptional Case Process

- Institutions are being asked to improve the appeals process for students who have requested an adjustment which has been rejected. Institutions should seek to minimise any delay for disabled students seeking adjustments.
- Arbitration - Disputes between institutions and SFE on the provision of reasonable adjustments will involve the OIA and institutional complaints processes – student led complaint.

# Institutional engagement

- Libraries have extensive institutional links and engagement:
- Departmental libraries
- Departments
- Disability Committees
- T&L committees
- Students
- Disability service

# Universal Access vs Reasonable Adjustments

- A fully inclusive service requires low additional effort from staff
- A partially inclusive service requires some effort
- An exclusive service requires greater effort

# Inclusive policies and practices

- Access to facilities and estate
- Increase in digital collections
- Equipment & policies regarding copies
- Availability of ergonomic equipment
- Induction policies for new students
- Library guides and learning materials on-line

# Types of reasonable adjustments

- Extended loans of books, including high demand books
- Delivery methods
- 1:1 library inductions
- Book fetching and delivery services
- Equipment storage
- IT accessible rooms

# Accessible resources

- For readers with complex needs
- Source and produce materials in alternative formats
- RNIB Bookshare (previously loadtolearn)
- <http://www.rnib.org.uk/insight-online/rnib-bookshare-launched>



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# Questions?