

SPECIALIST DISABILITY IN SCHOOL SUPPORT (SDSS) PROGRAM

Organisations Providing Services to Eligible Students:

- (1) School Support Services**
- (2) Resource Centre Services**
- (3) Specialised Equipment**

To access these services, schools must make a request to the organisation directly. Please use the organisation's hyperlink or contact details below.

(1) School Support Services

[Act for Kids](#)

Brisbane and Townsville

Email: mail@actforkids.com.au

Telephone: (07) 3357 9444 – Brisbane (Angela Kratz)
(07) 4755 8777 – Townsville (Tegan Milton)

Act for Kids' Early Intervention Program improves educational access and positive outcomes for students who have experienced abuse and neglect. Students referred to our program have multiple developmental delays due to trauma and its subsequent impact on their learning and development, including speech and language deficits, cognitive impairment and social emotional and learning disabilities.

Ongoing impacts of early childhood trauma require an integrated therapy approach to help students learn, participate and achieve within educational environments. The service provides multidisciplinary assessment and therapy services for school-aged children, encompassing speech language pathology, outreach teachers, occupational therapy and psychology. The service works in partnership with teachers and key people in educational settings to develop, implement and monitor therapeutic programs for individual students.

[Autism Queensland](#)

State-wide

Email: ests@autismqld.com.au

Telephone: (07) 3273 0000

Autism Queensland's transdisciplinary team of speech pathologists, occupational therapists, teachers and psychologists visit and consult with schools to provide information, advice and strategies to support the educational outcomes of students on the autism spectrum. The aim of these visits is to identify barriers to access, participation and achievement, and provide supports to enhance student attendance, participation and achievement in schooling. The School Advisory Service is also an opportunity for schools and parents to discuss current educational and developmental needs including communication, sensory processing, emotional and self-regulation, literacy, motor skills and general behaviour.

In consultation with schools and education sector contacts, Autism Queensland will provide School Advisory Visits, targeted follow-up visits or video/teleconference, and forums and education sessions. Face to face services will be available on an as needed basis in South East Queensland, Cairns, Mackay and surrounding areas. Services to other parts of the state will be provided according to an outreach visit itinerary, however telephone, video/teleconference and email support will be available between visits. The SDSS services also provide an Education Support Line via telephone

or email, five days per week, to provide immediate access to information and advice for teachers, school support staff and parents, and resources to support learning.

[Banana Shire Council](#)

Banana Shire

Email: crc@banana.qld.gov.au

Telephone: (07) 4992 7360

The service will include professional support, mentoring, coaching, individual and group intervention services in partnership with education support team members, focusing program delivery in three areas:

- Individual school delivery of education and therapy supports to meet student goals.
- Multi school education and therapy intervention programs - group program delivery and alternate venues to support students with similar goals but who attend multiple schools.
- Development and maintenance of a resource and specialised equipment library to ensure contemporary, easily accessible resources to enable maximum use and access for trial and loan.

[Bundaberg & District Neighbourhood Centre](#)

Bundaberg Region

Email: info@bundabergneighbourhoodcentre.org.au

Telephone: (07) 4153 1614

The services provided include speech pathology and occupational therapy supporting verified students with a disability in non-state schools in collaboration with the education team in each school. Students not accessing out-of-school therapy through the NDIS are given priority.

[Cairns Catholic and Independent Schools Therapy \(also known as ACCIST\)](#)

Cairns Region

Email: ebishop@cns.catholic.edu.au

Telephone: (07) 4050 9722

Provision of targeted allied health services to verified students in Catholic and Independent Schools in the Far North Queensland region. Services include: Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Pathology and Physiotherapy.

The key aim of the services is to work with schools to enhance the educational outcomes of students with disability. This is achieved through identification of any barriers and the provision of supports that enhance student access, participation and achievement. The service works collaboratively with key stakeholders including education staff, external agencies and other organisations in the identification and implementation of reasonable adjustments that improve student attendance, participation and achievement in schooling.

[Children's Therapy Centre](#)

Gympie, Sunshine Coast, Caboolture

Email: enquiries@childrenstherapycentre.com.au

Telephone: (07) 5441 7199

The service will deliver a range of structured and individualised therapy supports to school-aged students with disability and will be delivered in the student's natural learning school environment (classroom and playground). The program will identify barriers to access, participation and achievement, and provide supports to enhance student attendance, participation and achievement in schooling. Through this approach, student learning outcomes are expected to improve.

Therapists will be deployed from multiple disciplines (including speech therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and psychology), ensuring students in the school support services program received tailored support to achieve their educational goals.

[CPL - Choice, Passion, Life \(also known as Cerebral Palsy League\)](#)

State-wide

Email: nwindridge@cpl.org.au

Telephone: 1800 941 069

The services comprise of Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy support to students in the education setting in the form of:

1. Assessment to guide supports, modifications and adjustments required at school
2. Provision of Therapy support in collaboration with school team to allow carry-over of skills/ goals at school
3. The loan, trial and prescription of specialised equipment and assistive technology to support student participation and access in education
4. Attendance at goal setting meetings to assist with identifying strategies for student support
5. Delivery of professional development to teaching staff
6. Development and delivery of group programs and specialised clinics at schools that support student skills development.

CPL's service is consultative and collaborative – we work closely with the local school support team to ensure holistic and integrated client support for optimal student outcomes.

Let's Talk at School day events are hosted by schools. Let's Talk supports and motivates students to explore and use Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) to increase participation in communication interactions. Let's Talk exposes students and education staff to technology, highlighting the power of AAC for each student to reach their potential and access the school curriculum in a meaningful way.

[Deaf Services Queensland \(also known as Hear for Kids\)](#)

Brisbane and Townsville

Email: info@hearforkids.org.au

Telephone: (07) 3848 0080

Speech language pathology (SLP) and occupational therapy (OT) services will be provided to students in Prep to Year 2 who are verified as hearing impaired. Both therapies will support students' engagement and participation in the curriculum, with SLP focusing on the areas of expressive and receptive language and literacy skills, and OT on fine motor skills, handwriting, sensory processing and behavioural regulation.

SLP will be provided in Brisbane and Townsville, and OT in Brisbane. Services include assessment; verbal/written reports; classroom-based therapy support; support to teachers in the development of a specific program; individual therapy; support in the Education Adjustment Program process; consultation and collaboration with the education team; liaison with outside agencies; and the development of specific resources.

[Granite Belt Support Services](#)

Stanthorpe Region

Email: adminteam@gbss.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 4681 3020

Therapy services are provided to the Granite Belt Cluster State Schools and the non-state schools including Speech Language Pathology (SLP), Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physiotherapy (Physio). Granite Belt Support Services use a multidisciplinary approach (SLP, OT and Physio) to deliver therapy interventions including supporting students to be able to access and participate in learning opportunities. Our professional services include:

- The use of standardised and observational OT, SLP and Physio assessments of students to determine current abilities of each child, prioritise needs and to ensure a service delivery based on student strengths. The assessment process is done in collaboration with people who know the student well e.g. educators, therapists and parents/carers.
- Consultation with carers, teachers, support staff and other specialists to determine, maintain and monitor effective Individual Curriculum Plans and program plans.
- Design and implementation of OT, SLP and Physio programs to enhance skills and/or make adjustments to equipment, curriculum or environments to ensure individual needs of students are catered for and suited to their context.

[Guide Dogs Queensland](#)

State-wide

Email: pathways@guidedogsqld.com.au**Telephone:** (07) 3500 9060

Orientation and Mobility Specialists (OMS) work with students to achieve maximum use of any remaining vision, as well as constructive use of object perception, hearing, touch, smell and kinaesthetic awareness. If a student needs to use a long cane, the OMS will teach the student how to safely and independently use this device within the school environment. The OMS will also facilitate access, participation and achievement within the school setting by working on tasks such as:

- utilising literacy and numeracy skills to learn any necessary walking routes to get to locations within the school environment;
- utilising communication skills to ask for assistance and advocate for themselves; and
- learning how to teach other people to properly and safely use Sighted Guide techniques when travelling without a long cane.

Occupational Therapist (OT) review how a student's vision impairment impacts on their ability to do what they need to do within their school setting. They will then make recommendations to help the student's access, participation and achievement within the school environment that may include adjustments and advice to the student's:

- physical surroundings;
- specialised reading aids; and
- environment within the classroom to enhance access.

[Hear and Say Centre for Deaf Children](#)

State-wide

Email: mail@hearandsay.com.au**Telephone:** (07) 3850 2111

Provide services to individual students transitioning from our early intervention program to their schooling years, and provide targeted support as needed throughout the individual student's school years to improve access to and participation in curriculum and improve their educational outcomes. The service requested by the school will be provided via on-site visits or through an online platform by our Listening and Spoken Language Specialists and/or Occupational Therapists and/or Audiologists.

These inclusive setting visits will comprise observations of the child in the educational setting across various learning environments (group and individual); assessments of the listening environment; consultation with the school personnel supporting the individual student, particularly the Advisory Visiting Teacher – Hearing Impairment; and an opportunity to share the common goals aligned to Australian Curriculum competencies for each student. Comprehensive training related to the student's technological devices (e.g. cochlear implants, hearing aids, other wireless assistive listening devices) will be provided, as requested.

[Standing In \(QLD\) Ltd](#)

Mackay Region

Email: admin@standingin.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 3105 5998

Provision of support to school education teams and students with a verified diagnosis of impairment in Catholic, Independent and State schools in the towns of Mackay, Sarina and Walkerston. This will occur through a transdisciplinary approach to service delivery, involving occupational therapy, speech pathology and/or physiotherapy input. Education teams will be supported in formulating and implementing reasonable adjustments to maximise students' curriculum access and social participation in school settings. Therapists will provide specialist assessment of students' abilities in one or more areas related to communication, socialisation, physical functioning, sensory processing and self-care. Intervention may be provided to eligible students individually or in groups, directly or through school-implemented treatments. Services will include skill-building resources for use with students where possible, and will provide school staff with training relevant to their students' needs.

[Montrose Therapy and Respite Services](#)

State-wide

Email: hello@montrose.org.au**Telephone:** 1800 193 362

The services will provide paediatric therapy services, including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech pathology to students with disability covering the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast and outreach to Gympie, Toowoomba and Warwick. Therapy interventions would include assessment, direct therapy programs (these could be delivered in-person, via video technology, or through a teacher aide trained by a therapist), specialist advice and education. Additional services could include equipment prescription or equipment loan.

Therapy priorities would be as directed by the school requesting the services and would include support for students to access the curriculum, and the physical environment. The support provided will assist with each student achieving educational access, participation and learning outcomes.

[Speech and Language Development Australia \(also known as CHI.L.D Assoc\)](#)

State-wide

Email: sss@salda.org.au**Telephone:** 1300 881 763

The service supports students to access and participate within the curriculum by working with schools to identify students' individual needs and supporting educators to identify and reduce barriers to learning and participation, through differentiated and explicit teaching.

The service provides support to all educational sectors across rural, regional and metropolitan areas of Queensland. The service is staffed by a team of specialist Educators, Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, a Physiotherapist and a Psychologist. The team provides multidisciplinary consultation and capacity building services to students, teachers and stakeholders, incorporating observation, informal assessment, consultative meetings, collaborative goal setting, individualised reporting and intensive support programming.

[S.B.H. Queensland \(also known as Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Qld\)](#)

State-wide

Email: education@sbhqueensland.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 3844 4600

The primary client group for this service are eligible students with spina bifida, hydrocephalus or related conditions (such as with paraplegia, and suffering similar learning, mobility or continence challenges). The service will offer schools the support services of therapy – education support, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech pathology. The service includes an outreach program in most areas for schools throughout Queensland. Our focus is on collaborating effectively with your school to support your students' development and education and to help them to participate fully in all aspects of school life.

[True Relationships and Reproductive Health \(also known as Family Planning Qld\)](#)

State-wide

Email: education@true.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 3250 0240

The "Every Body Needs to Know" Project will provide Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) to students across Queensland. Education professionals provide services to school students with disability, using specialised resources and teaching practices, to ensure inclusive learning.

Comprehensive RSE helps to protect students from abuse, increases students' confidence in understanding and managing body changes, and teaches what is appropriate (and legal) social and relationship behaviour. RSE is included in the Australian National Curriculum from Prep to Year 10, yet students with disability are often excluded from receiving the content.

For some students this may require adjustments in order for the curriculum to be accessible. Relationships and Reproductive Health educators can provide age-appropriate RSE to all students with disability on curriculum-based topics such as: personal safety, rules about touch, healthy relationships, puberty, sexual health and reproduction, consent and decision-making, and sex and the law.

[Vision Australia](#)

State-wide

Email: info@visionaustralia.org.au**Telephone:** 1300 847 466

The services provide direct professional therapy services and consultation in schools for eligible students who are vision impaired. The program aims to support the individual learning requirements for each student within their educational setting. Programs and/or interventions are designed to maximise the student's learning potential and ability to access the curriculum. Students are supported by providing direct services that facilitate the young person's development and access to education and independence by utilising the skills of occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech therapists, access technology specialist and orientation and mobility specialists. This is done individually with students or in group settings.

All students in the service are allocated a Primary Service Provider (PSP) who acts as the key point of contact for the family and the school. The PSP will continually assess needs and conduct individual service planning. In addition to direct service provision, they will also take on the role of service coordinator and liaise across the full range services. These services are delivered by our team across Queensland.

(2) Resource Centre Services[ARC Disability Services](#)

Cairns Region

Email: info@arcinc.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 4046 3600

The service provides a resource loan service targeting the diverse learning needs of eligible students with low incidence disabilities in schools across Far North Queensland. The service will work collaboratively with teachers, school-based specialists, and diverse learning support staff to identify and source relevant resources targeting individual student learning plans.

The service includes professional advice and delivery of resources on location at schools, as well as online and centre-based resource selection services. With a scheduled rotation of resources across schools and a purposeful variety of resource modality across curriculum, the service maximises availability of inclusive educational resources to eligible students with disability in schools across the region.

[Cooloola Community Toy Library](#)

Cooloola Region

Email: kennedy@spiderweb.com.au**Telephone:** 0448 826 762

Services will provide support to eligible students and education team members. The services will include the provision of educational toys and games; special needs equipment and furniture; gross and fine motor equipment; in-house library borrowing service; collection and delivery service to outlying areas; resources to schools and therapists.

The services will also include advice regarding age appropriate resources and specific items for particular needs; assistance for education team members with items to enhance the student's learning and development in schools; provision of classroom sized kits for large groups including time, measurement, money and resources for matters not commercially available for use in schools.

[Fraser Coast Regional Council \(also known as Maryborough Toy and Special Needs Library\)](#)

Fraser Coast Region

Email: library@frasercoast.qld.gov.au**Telephone:** (07) 4197 4220

The service will provide an extensive range of toys, educational resources and specialised disability equipment for schools and students in the Fraser Coast community.

The specialised services and equipment provided by the service allows education teams to assist eligible students to meet their education goals and to achieve greater independence, dignity, choice, participation and inclusion at school.

[Queensland Braille Writing Association](#)

State-wide

Email: coordinator@qbwa.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 3848 5257

The Queensland Braille Writing Association is a resource centre for Braille transcribed education resources for eligible students in state and non-state schools.

[YMCA Bundaberg \(also known as Bundaberg Disability Resource Centre & Toy Library\)](#)

Bundaberg Region

Email: bundytoylibrary@ymca.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 4153 2909

The service provides a resource loan service targeting the diverse learning needs of eligible students with disabilities in schools across the Bundaberg Region. The service will work in collaboration with the student's therapists, teachers and other education support team members to meet the student's needs and support the development of the student's education program.

The service provides an extensive range of toys, educational resources and specialised disability equipment and maximises the access to inclusive educational resources to eligible students. The service includes professional advice and delivery of resources to schools, as well as online and centre-based library borrowing services.

(3) Specialised Equipment[Banana Shire Council](#)

Banana Shire

Email: crc@banana.qld.gov.au**Telephone:** (07) 4992 7360

The specialised equipment provided has been identified for its potential to allow eligible students with a variety of disabilities to participate and have access to the curriculum. New equipment falls under the categories (1) Communication in the Educational Setting, and (2) Movement and Optimal Positioning within the Learning Environment. Specialised equipment available for trial includes a wide range of seating and desk options, mobility equipment, high and low tech alternative augmentative communication and diagnostic assessments.

[Fraser Coast Regional Council \(also known as Maryborough Toy and Special Needs Library\)](#)

Maryborough Region

Email: library@frasercoast.qld.gov.au**Telephone:** (07) 4190 5893

The specialised equipment provided will allow teachers and therapists to access a variety of equipment to assist eligible students to meet their education goals and to achieve greater independence, dignity, choice, participation and inclusion at school.

[S.B.H. Queensland \(also known as Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Qld\)](#)

State-wide

Email: education@sbhqueensland.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 3844 4600

This service provides support for eligible students with spina bifida, hydrocephalus or related conditions (such as with paraplegia and experiencing similar learning, mobility or continence challenges). The students, living throughout Queensland, are assisted throughout their schooling and the specialised equipment requested will support our existing Education and Therapy Service. Through our ongoing work with the students in schools, we have identified equipment that would be beneficial to lend to schools, and to students at school, to enhance each student's participation in education.

[Vision Australia](#)

State-wide

Email: info@visionaustralia.org.au**Telephone:** 1300 847 466

The service provides tools, advice and strategies to teachers, schools education support team members to enable students to participate fully in the educational environment. Requests for specialised equipment come via the school education teams.

No single solution or equipment will meet all student's needs. Selection and trial of the equipment requested, will provide staff and the school student the opportunity for the best fit for their own education needs.

[YMCA Bundaberg \(also known as Bundaberg Disability Resource Centre & Toy Library\)](#)

Bundaberg Region

Email: bundytoylibrary@ymca.org.au**Telephone:** (07) 4153 2909

The service provides specialised equipment which may be required to enable eligible students to increase participation, access and achievement in education. The service provides advice and tools to teachers and education support team members so they can identify and access the specialised equipment suitable to assist eligible students.