

Diverse learning needs resources

The following resources may support your program. As parent and home educator, you are best placed to determine the suitability of these resources for your child.

[Useful contacts](#) | **[Autism Spectrum Disorder useful contacts](#)** | **[Support for children with disability](#)** | **[Information sources](#)** | **[Technology resources](#)** | **[Other resources](#)** | **[Mental health support](#)**

Useful contacts

Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (Queensland Government)

<https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability-connect-queensland> provides information about Queensland Government support and services for people with disability, their family and carers - through the NDIS and support and advocacy for people with disability.

QUT Health Clinics <http://www.healthclinics.qut.edu.au/> offer a range of paediatric services (often without out-of-pocket expense) including the areas of nutrition and dietetics, podiatry, optometry, psychology and counselling (including psychometric assessments) and exercise physiology.

Autism Hub and Reading Centre <https://ahrc.eq.edu.au/> provides specialist advice to educators and parents on how to improve engagement, teach reading and support readers, including strategies for students with dyslexia. This website includes an extensive professional learning calendar with face-to-face and web conferencing options.

SPELD Queensland <http://www.speld.org.au/> is a not-for-profit organisation offering support to parents of children with learning difficulties. They engage specialist teachers and have a psychologist as part of the assessment team. SPELD runs workshops with speakers from the professional community and overseas; has an *Advisory Help Line*; runs intensive reading programs and provides resource advice, including information regarding assistive technology. The Queensland Government Department of Education is a sponsor of SPELD.

Autism Spectrum Disorder useful contacts

Autism Hub <https://ahrc.eq.edu.au/> aims to help students and their families access the wide range of ASD support services and programs offered by the Queensland Government and non-government agencies through the provision of information and professional development. Autism coaches are located at the Hub and operate in seven regions across Queensland.

Autism Queensland <https://autismqld.com.au/> is a not-for-profit community based organisation dedicated to creating a life of participation, opportunity and choice for people living with ASD. They provide specialised education, therapy and support services for children and their families. Autism Queensland's School Advisory Visit Service is supported by the Queensland Government Department of Education Specialist Disability Support in Schools (SDSS) Program). The Queensland Government is a corporate donor to Autism Queensland.

Griffith University Autism Centre of Excellence (ACE) <https://www.griffith.edu.au/arts-education-law/autism-centre-excellence> seeks to support learning for people with autism across their lifespan, from early childhood to further education and employment. The centre works collaboratively with the states and federal governments' education, health and communities portfolios. Their mission is to provide training to parents and professionals and to undertake research to expand knowledge about autism and autism intervention. Their website provides information about events, seminars and the latest research information.



Support for children with disability

Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Scheme

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/assistance-for-isolated-children-scheme> is a group of payments from the Australian Government Services Australia (Centrelink) which helps families who have children who are unable to attend a local government school on a daily basis because of geographical isolation, disability or special needs.

National Disability Insurance Scheme in Queensland (NDIS)

<https://myplace.ndis.gov.au/ndisstorefront/index.html> the NDIS provides support to eligible people with intellectual, physical, sensory, cognitive and psychosocial disability. Early intervention supports can also be provided for eligible people with disability or children with developmental delay.

Information sources

Queensland Government – Disability specific resources <https://education.qld.gov.au/students/students-with-disability/succeeding-with-disability/specific-resources> is a useful starting point for educators, parents and carers to gain information regarding the availability of disability specific resources and support. The list is not exhaustive and is indicative of the options, services and resources available in Queensland and is listed in alphabetical order.

BetterHealth Channel <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/conditionsandtreatment> is a Victorian State Government website providing information about a wide variety of conditions and treatments. The information may assist in developing understanding of a particular condition or diagnosis, in addition to advice about where to get help. Many articles on the website are podcast.

Education Directorate, ACT Government <https://www.education.act.gov.au/support-for-our-students/students-with-learning-difficulties/resources-and-links> provides informative factsheets about learning difficulties, Dyslexia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia.

Technology resources

Apps can be sourced or purchased through an app store appropriate to your device's operating system.

People with disability apps and tools (Queensland Government) <http://www.qld.gov.au/disability/apps-tools/index.html> provides a shortlist of free and low-cost apps which may be useful to people with a medical condition.

Queensland Government – Aids, equipment and assistive technologies

<https://www.qld.gov.au/disability/adults/getting-help/aids-equipment-assistive-technologies> has some information about resources designed to assist people with disabilities. Information for carers and friends, as well as for service providers and education professionals and buying advice is included.

Other resources

State Library Queensland <http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/services/membership/how-to-join> In addition to books from your home and local libraries, some excellent books and eBooks are available through the State Library. Residents outside of Brisbane can upgrade their online membership to an RLQ ([Rural Libraries Queensland](#)) membership for access to State Library Services through delivery to regional libraries. A range of children's resources and activities can be accessed through the library and RLQ membership.

Raising Children – the Australian parenting website <https://raisingchildren.net.au/> (supported by the Australian Government: Department of Social Services) provides information about services and support, rights and laws, NDIS, play and learning, guide to disabilities, children with disabilities and family life.



Mental health support

Headspace <https://headspace.org.au/> Headspace - National Youth Mental Health Foundation focuses on early intervention by working with young people to provide support and get them back on track and strengthen their capacity to manage their mental health. Web links to information for parents and friends providing support as well as Headspace centres, phone and online services are provided. Headspace is a charity which is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health.

Queensland Government – Keys to good mental health in children

<https://www.qld.gov.au/disability/children-young-people/keys-to-good-mental-health> looks at keys to good mental health in children and provides links to support services.