Professional Learning

If you are a teacher or school leader of students on the autism spectrum, this national professional learning program is available to assist you to increase your knowledge, skills and expertise in supporting young people on the autism spectrum.

This Professional Learning program

- provides a 5 day equivalent program comprising a combination of online learning activities and a 2 day face-to-face workshop;
- includes a dedicated website with access to resources, support materials and an interactive online learning platform;
- is practical and useful for school teams across all settings;
- is evidence informed and reflects adult learning principles;
- focuses on building schools' capacity to support students on the autism spectrum and maximise learning in the school and home environment;
- explores processes and strategies that strengthen effective partnerships between home and school;
- provides an opportunity to explore the experiences of young people on the autism spectrum and their families;

Working together to support school-aged students on the autism spectrum

The professional learning program for teachers and school leadership is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Autism Package and is being delivered by Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect).

Workshop Details

Online registration will open on 30th October 2017

Code: 17-18WACOPL1

Venue: The Boulevard

99 The Boulevard Floreat WA 6014

Date: Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th March 2018

Registration desk opens from 8.00am. Day starts at 8:30am and finishes at 4:00pm

Please note that attendance at this workshop has been negotiated through your education sector.

Program Overview

Pre and post-workshop online learning modules and activities:

- Whole School survey, How Inclusive is my School?
- An Introduction to Autism
- An Introduction to the Planning Matrix
- 4 post-workshop online learning activities

2 day face to face workshop sessions:

- Autism: characteristics, impacts and strategies
- Understanding sensory processing
- Understanding behaviour
- Understanding mental health and wellbeing
- Making adjustments
- Working Together
- Where are you now? and Where are you heading? Development of the School Plan

Post- workshop activities:

- Implementation of the School Plan
- Summary and sharing of the School Plan

During this same period, Parents/carers will be invited to attend a Parent/Carer workshop. At this workshop there will be links made with some of the content presented during the professional learning workshop with the intention of strengthening partnerships between home and school to support young people on the autism spectrum.

Participating schools commit to:

- The formation of a school team consisting of a member of leadership and a class teacher (min 2 and max 3 school members). This team will share new learnings and knowledge with their school community.
- Supporting their school team to
 - implement and collate the Whole School survey
 - complete the online learning modules and activities
 - attend the 2 face to face workshop days
 - implement the School Plan and share this journey
- promoting the PC workshop to their Parents and Carers

All participants in the Positive Partnerships professional learning program will be expected to complete the program as outlined above to gain a Certificate of Participation. Completion of this program is equivalent to 5 days professional learning.

For further information contact professionallearning@autismspectrum.org.au

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training through the Helping Children with Autism package. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Department of Education and Training.