Professional learning for skilled and knowledgeable teachers
Every Student, Every School: Learning and Support

Research demonstrates that one of the most significant contributors to educational outcomes in the school environment is the teacher.

Effective teachers are our most important resource for supporting high quality educational outcomes for every student, including those with disability.

Quality professional learning for teachers and support staff is vital for ensuring that schools are able to meet the needs of their students with disability. It must extend the knowledge and skills of teachers to plan and make adjustments for students in collaboration with students and their parents.

What we will do now

We will develop and implement an increased range of opportunities for teachers and educational support staff to access quality professional learning and training that supports:

- high expectations for every student,
- teachers in making adjustments to support the individual learning needs of students with disability, and
- effective collaborative partnerships with parents and other professionals.

This professional learning will be delivered in a range of ways to meet the needs of educational personnel across the state, including face to face training, video conferencing and supported online training.

What we will build on

- An extensive range of training, resources and professional learning accredited by NSW Institute of Teachers that support our teachers and school leaders. This includes courses that address education support for students with disability or additional learning needs.
- A highly successful range of specialist courses for teachers and other education personnel that are delivered through a blended training mode of workshops and tutor-supported online learning.
- Current retraining programs in special education offered for experienced teachers and delivered through local universities.

We will:

- Provide more than 300 additional scholarships for teachers to undertake retraining to gain post graduate qualifications in special education.
- Provide access for more teachers and other support staff to accredited online learning courses in areas of additional learning and support need including: autism; behaviour; dyslexia and significant reading difficulties; speech, language and communication, and; motor coordination.

Develop and implement additional accredited professional learning to support teachers. This will include the priority areas of:

- understanding the Disability Standards for Education
- making adjustments for students with additional learning and support needs.
- understanding and responding to the needs of students with hearing impairment.
- support for learners with additional needs in the middle years of schooling
- Provide support for staff to undertake further training in the mental health needs of our students in rural and remote areas.
- Provide support for schools’ understanding and use of Positive Behaviour for Learning through conferences and regional workshops.

This will result in:

A teacher workforce that is better equipped to understand and meet the learning and support needs of the full range of students in their classrooms.

Further information

www.det.nsw.edu.au/every-student-every-school