

NEWSLETTER

Issue 003

April 2024

Specialist Disability Support in Schools

What is the difference between SDSS and NDIS?

The SDSS Program supports schools to enhance the learning outcomes for eligible students who require significant educational adjustments. The SDSS organisations are funded by the department and their services are engaged by schools to work on the educational goals of students.

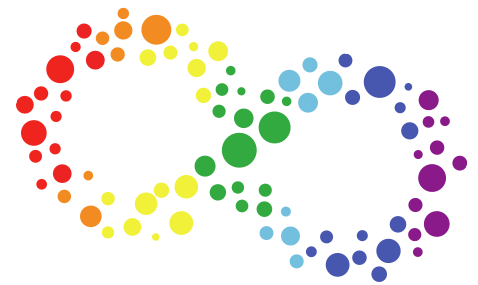
NDIS services are focused on supporting people with disability in their daily lives and do not include supports within schools to access the curriculum. NDIS funding is allocated to parents of students with disability under a NDIS participant plan, with parents directly engaging a provider.

April is Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month

Autism Awareness Month serves as a crucial platform to foster understanding and support for autistic individuals. However, it is equally vital that we listen to the voices of our autistic community, across the life span, who advocate for more than just awareness. They emphasise the importance of acceptance, meaningful inclusion, and addressing the diverse needs of ALL autistic individuals.

"For any families or school communities celebrating, (Autism Awareness Month) we urge you to steer clear of blue, and go red instead, light it up gold, tone it down taupe or rejoice it with rainbows! Please steer clear of puzzle pieces."

Reframing Autism



The Rainbow Infinity symbolises the spectrum of autistic traits and identities, illustrating the infinite strengths and possibilities of the autistic community. This symbol embodies the community's advocacy for embracing differences and fostering a more inclusive society that values the unique strengths and perspectives of autistic individuals.



Neuroaffirming Resources

- **Reframing Autism** - Autistic led organisation - <https://reframingautism.org.au/> 
- **Neurowild** - Autistic/ADHD SLP - 
- **ICAN Network** - Autistic led organisation - <https://icannetwork.online/> 

Professional Development Opportunities

GBSS – SDSS Term 2 Workshop: RESCHEDULED from Term 1

- Week 3 (03/05) @ 3:45pm - 'Ask the Therapists'
- FREE workshops - Open to all teachers and teacher aides
- Including three Fast Facts sessions from our OT, SLP and Physio
- Bring your questions, queries and concerns and ask the experts!

Other PD of interest:

- FREE Positive Partnerships Online PD - The Diversity of Autism
- **17 April** - <https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/workshop/>

