

Personalised learning and support

Personalised learning and support helps a wide range of students with additional learning and support needs.

You and your child's school – and other professionals where needed – will work together to identify your child's educational needs and determine how the school will provide adjustments and support to meet them.

Planning for your child's education should consider their strengths and interests, which are important for engaging your child at school. It should also take into account their areas of need and set out a path to help them achieve their goals.

A plan created to assist your child may be referred to in a number of ways, and could be called a personalised learning and support plan, an individual education plan or an individual learning plan.

Your child's plan will be reviewed regularly by your child's school, in consultation with you, and adjusted to meet your child's needs over time.

Identifying your child's needs

The school will develop an understanding of your child's needs by talking to you and looking at information the school already has about your child.

They will consider things like your child's reading and numeracy skills, their language and communications skills, social skills, their school attendance, their health care needs and their personal and cultural background.

Any documentation you have from medical and other professionals such as doctors, nurses, psychologists, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, audiologists or early childhood educators will also be taken into account.

If your child has an NDIS plan you can let the school know, this may help with planning within the school setting.

How you can work with your child's school

All schools will provide support for your child, although personalised planning may not be necessary in all cases.

You will be invited to provide input into any plan or adjustment for your child's education. These should be updated regularly, most schools do this every school year and as your child's needs change.

Staff at your child's local school will:

- discuss your child's strengths, interests and areas of need with you
- help to explain what personalised learning and support for your child might look like
- discuss specific learning adjustments that could be made to support your child, such as adjustments to the curriculum, learning resources, the way the curriculum is taught, assessment, or your child's classroom environment
- develop a personalised plan for your child's learning and support
- suggest any support groups or external providers who may be able to support you and your child.

When you meet with your local school to discuss your child's personalised learning, they may consider your child's:

- academic progress
- physical, behavioural, emotional and wellbeing needs within the school and home environment
- ability to study and care for themselves independently
- social interactions with their classmates.

Before these meetings, you might find it helpful to think about how you see your child's future at school and their life after school. Your child's plan should be helping them work towards these goals.

You can also talk to your child about how they feel about going to school and any worries they might be having. Their friends and siblings might also be able to give you some insights into how they are progressing.

