

INCLUSION AGENCY TASMANIA

Providing Inclusion Support to Tasmanian Early Childhood
Education and Care Services

Gowrie



Inclusion Support Program

Lady Gowrie Tasmania is the state-wide provider of the Inclusion Support Program (ISP) which is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education. The aim of the ISP is to support education and care services in the provision of quality inclusive practices, and active participation of children with additional needs alongside their typically developing peers within daily programs.

Additional needs may arise for children who:

- Have a disability or developmental delay.
- Are presenting with challenging behaviours.
- Have a serious medical or health condition, including mental health.
- Are presenting with trauma-related behaviours.

Meeting the needs and requirements of:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
- Children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
- Children from refugee or humanitarian backgrounds.
- May also require specific considerations, such as cultural support, to ensure positive outcomes.

How we will support your service

Lady Gowrie Tasmania have a network of Inclusion Professionals across the state to work directly with your service to:

- Support educators to reflect on their understandings of inclusion.
- Provide practical inclusive practice support to educators to identify and overcome specific inclusion barriers.
- Support educators to identify, acknowledge and reflect on their strengths.
- Assist services to develop a tailored Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP), which documents identified inclusion barriers together with inclusive practices, strategies, and actions for implementation at either a whole of service or care environment level.
- Coach educators and teams to critically reflect on their practice and identify possibilities for change, working alongside and role modelling the use of new tools and practical concepts.
- Facilitate access to all Inclusion Support Program (ISP) resources including Specialist Equipment and funding.
- Support services to develop connections with relevant community groups, services and organisations that contribute to an enriched and informed approach.
- Promote strong partnerships with families and other support networks to ensure an aligned approach to inclusion strategies.

Inclusive Practices

- Every child has the right to experience high quality early childhood education and care, where they can play, wonder, discover and actively participate alongside peers.
- All children are viewed as being capable, competent learners and as active contributors with infinite potential in education and care services.
- Every child's strengths, interests, and own unique learning trajectory are acknowledged and reflected within daily programs.
- Collaboration and building authentic partnerships with families and communities underpins educator practice.
- Diversity is acknowledged, valued, and is viewed as a resource for learning and growth.
- All educators identify inclusion barriers and learn ways to overcome them.
- The focus is on the whole environment, that is thoughtfully designed to foster a holistic approach to participation, and not just an individual child.
- Educators work as a team and respond through active listening and collaboration, and with a shared vision and goals.

"Nurturing Inclusion, Growing Together"

SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT LIBRARY

Specialist Equipment Library comprises of a range of equipment and resources which are available to eligible education and care services to facilitate and support the inclusion of a child or children with a disability to actively participate within all aspects of the daily program.

The need for specialist equipment must be identified in a service's Strategic Inclusion Plan (SIP) and be recommended by the child's allied health professional.

ELIGIBLE SERVICES

Please refer to ISP Guidelines <https://www.education.gov.au/early-childhood/resources/inclusion-support-program-guidelines>

INCLUSION DEVELOPMENT FUND MANAGER

www.idfm.org.au





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The Inclusion Support Program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education.

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As Inclusion Professionals (IP's) work predominantly in Education and Care services across the state, please direct any enquiries to Head Office so we can ensure a timely response to your enquiry.