

VIT Video

SPECIAL NEEDS PD IDEAS

In 2017, Special Needs PD is compulsory for renewal of registration if you haven't previously declared it in your 20 hours of PD.

Where can you access relevant Special Needs PD?

There are lots of sources, and you shouldn't limit yourself to paid formal courses or sector or school led activities.

Research shows that teachers learn best by working collaboratively.

So why not visit your colleagues in their learning environment to see how they manage their learners with disability.

Work with an expert colleague

Engage in peer review

You can source professional learning by reading academic, educational and professional journals, websites and texts.

Or maybe you've worked with a Special Needs learner. You could do some further reading, discuss it with your colleagues, and then write a reflection on what went well or didn't go well and what you've learnt.

These are useful ideas if you're not working in a school, early childhood service or other education setting.

Here's some examples of useful online resources:

Students with disabilities in mainstream classrooms: A resource for teachers provides research-based suggestions to manage the learning of learners with disabilities. Search for it on Google.

Leading Learning4All is a web based resource that supports principals and teachers to provide inclusive learning environments and enhance the diversity of teaching practices in Australian schools.

If you decide to do some professional reading, remember that you'll need to document a reflection on what you've learnt. On our website, we provide a reflection tool. You don't have to use it, but you might find it helpful.

You can also record discussions with peers, mentors or supervisors (with their permission of course) and then reflect on your professional learning from this activity.

These are just some examples of how you might go about it.

If it improves your capability to support the participation of learners with disability in learning and you have evidence of your reflection, you can use this to renew your registration.