

# Resources for working with learners with special needs (APST 1.5, 1.6 & 4.1)

You should consider the modifications to the curriculum and/or your practice you will need to make to support the full participation of learners with a disability.

The *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth) provides a definition of learners with a disability. The definition of a disability is quite broad, more information on the definition of learners with a disability can be found [here](#).

## [Standard Inquiry matrix](#)

The matrix can help you understand the correlation between your inquiry and the APST. It shows the stages of the inquiry process and lists the relevant descriptors at each stage. This resource also provides examples of evidence of practice for descriptors that can be more challenging to evidence such as standards 1.6. The matrix is a general guide only. Dependent on the inquiry question different descriptors could be demonstrated in other stages of the Inquiry Cycle.

## [Association for Children with a Disability](#)

The Inclusive Classroom School Resource assists teachers and education providers to work together with families to create inclusive educational experiences for children with a disability. The Inclusive Classroom School Resource consists of 4 topics each with a video, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and parent stories and a list of Quick links.

## [AITSL – Illustrations of Practice](#)

AITSL provides illustrations of practice for a number of descriptors of the APST, click on “Proficient” and go to standards 1.5, 1.6 and 4.1 to see real examples of practice related to these descriptors.

## [Kids Matter – Australian Mental Health Initiative](#)

This site provides information for early childhood and primary teachers, as well as their families on how to support children with mental health difficulties.

## [Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability](#)

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability provides Australian schools, parents, education authorities and the community with information about the number of students with disability in schools, where they are located and the adjustments they receive. The national data collection on students with disability reinforces the existing obligations that schools have towards students under the [Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) and the [Disability Standards for Education 2005](#). It counts the number of students who are supported under these obligations based on the professional judgement of teachers and their understanding and knowledge of their students. Additional resources includes [guidance on adjustment level selection](#) and [level of adjustment case studies](#).

## [Embracing diversity](#)

A fact sheet from the Education Institute for embracing diversity and supporting learners with a disability on a whole school level.

## [Talking about people with disability](#)

A fact sheet from the Education Institute for embracing diversity and supporting learners with a disability on a whole school level.

## [Student Wellbeing Hub](#)

This site provides information and resources, including professional learning modules to help create respectful and supportive teaching and learning communities that promote learner safety and wellbeing.

### [Positive Partnerships](#)

This site provides a range of resources to assist teachers to support learners on the autism spectrum.