

SCHOOLS PROGRAM

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DOWN SYNDROME

Practical, personalised support for primary schools, high schools, mainstream classrooms, support units and Schools for Specific Purposes (SSPs).



A DOWN SYNDROME NSW INITIATIVE

CONTACT US

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OUR PROGRAM

The Down Syndrome NSW Schools Program supports educators and families to create inclusive, engaging school environments where students with Down syndrome can thrive.

We work across primary schools, high schools, mainstream settings, support units and SSPs, adapting our support to suit the unique needs of each student and school.

Our team provides:

- Professional learning and planning support for educators
- Peer inclusion and whole-school engagement
- Support for families to understand their rights and access advocacy when needed

WHY IT WORKS

Our support is practical, flexible, and grounded in lived experience. We work alongside educators and families to help each student learn and thrive in an inclusive setting.

OUR PROCESS



ABOUT DOWN SYNDROME NSW

Down Syndrome NSW is the peak organisation supporting people with Down syndrome across New South Wales. We work with families and professionals to promote rights, inclusion and lifelong opportunities.

WHAT WE OFFER

Professional Learning for Educators

- Whole-school and targeted workshops
- Inclusive strategies for literacy, numeracy, communication and behaviour
- Understanding Down syndrome and learning profiles
- Peer inclusion and rights-based education

Individualised School Support

- Guidance on IEPs, personalised learning and support plans
- Curriculum adjustments and visual supports
- Support for transitions into Kindy, high school and beyond

Family Support

- Information on rights and processes
- Support at parent information sessions and family learning events
- Referral to advocacy services when needed

Resources

- Social stories, visual aids and inclusive curriculum tools
- Practical strategies aligned to the NSW curriculum
- Classroom examples and case studies

Information and Referrals

- Help connecting with services and trusted specialists
- Workshops and sessions for families and educators
- Support for rural and remote schools

Ongoing Support

- Continued access to phone and email support
- Additional school visits as needed
- Resource updates and check-ins
- Referrals to external services



OUR EDUCATION TEAM



MIRIAM PHILOMEMA - INCLUSION AND EDUCATION MANAGER

With a degree in social work and as the mother of an adult daughter with Down syndrome, Miriam brings over 20 years of experience and deep NDIS knowledge to her training and advocacy work with both families and professionals.

ALISON MAUNDER - EDUCATION SPECIALIST

With over 20 years' experience in special education, Alison supports schools with inclusive practices, curriculum support, IEP development and standards-aligned professional development.



Here's what some of our partners have shared their experience working with us:

"Your strategies made an immediate difference. Our teacher adjusted the literacy program the next day." *Glenfield Public School*

> "The ILP is now much more aligned with our student's learning style. We're seeing progress already." Blakebrook Public School

"Since your visit, our student now joins most class activities and now no longer needs 1:1 support at recess and lunch. Thank you again for your support - your visit made a real difference!" Face-to-Face Workshop Participant

> "Support for regional students like ours is so needed. This was specific, practical, and incredibly helpful." *Workshop participant*