



autism spectrum
AUSTRALIA

POST SCHOOL NAVIGATION PACK (NSW)

Compiled by the Autism Information Line
Autism Spectrum Australia

A guide for locating services in NSW:
For families who have a post school aged child who has
an autism spectrum disorder (ASD)

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect)
www.autismspectrum.org.au
PO Box 361 Forestville NSW 2087
Ph: (02) 8977 8300 Fax: (02) 8977 8399
ABN 12 000 637 267



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Who is Autism Spectrum Australia?

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is the largest service provider for individuals with autism spectrum disorder¹ (ASD) and their families in Australia.

What is the Autism Information Line?

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) recognises that there are many questions for individuals who have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), as well as for their families, carers, support staff and professionals. It is with the support of fundraising that Aspect operates the Autism Information Line (AIL).

The role of the AIL is to:

- Assist in answering specific enquiries
- Provide a referral point for services within Aspect and the wider community
- Offer brief practical advice to assist families and carers with their day to day management of children with ASD

The information line is staffed by Aspect professionals from a range of disciplines, who access a wide range of information regarding services and resources.

Please call the Autism Information Line

02 8977 8377

1800 069 978

Email: infoline@aspect.org.au

¹ ASD includes autistic disorder, pervasive developmental disability – not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) and Asperger's disorder.

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Introduction

This pack has been compiled by the Autism Information Line at Autism Spectrum Australia to assist parents and other family members to navigate the post school options available in NSW for families that have a school aged child with an Autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Please note that these are not necessarily Autism Spectrum specific and in most cases cover general disabilities.

Contents

The services in this navigation pack are listed in various categories that are ordered alphabetically. The categories include:

Post school transitions: DET / Catholic / Independent

Post school options: DEEWR

Post school options: TAFE

Post school options DADHC

Websites for government funded options

Employment services

Useful websites for general post school options

Disability specific organisations

Information lines and directories

ASD information / resources / research

Carer Support Services

Culturally Specific Services

Financial services

Government services

Health professionals

Technical aid

Post School Transitions Dept of Education

The Department of Education in NSW is divided into 10 areas each of which has a **Student Support Coordinator**. They are responsible for the overall support for students in NSW Department of Education schools. In turn there are **Disability Program Consultants** who have responsibility for students with special needs in these schools. For Transition from School programs there are **Support Teachers Transition**. They are responsible for curriculum planning, facilitating DADHC assessments and have information about filling in forms, planning TVET places and subsidies for educational placement. They also run expos and forums for parents and professionals. For assistance, contact your local Student Support Coordinator and ask to be put in touch with your Disability Program Consultant.

<u>Hunter/Central Coast Region</u> <u>(Newcastle)</u>	<u>Illawarra and South Coast Region</u> <u>(Queanbeyan)</u>
Phone: (02) 4904 3900 Fax: 4904 3950	Phone: 6200 5000 Fax: 6299 0412
<u>New England Region</u> <u>(Tamworth Regional Office)</u>	<u>North Coast Region</u> <u>(North Coast Regional Office)</u>
Phone: 6755 5939 Fax: 6755 5935	Phone: 6670 2316 Fax: 6672 5192
<u>Northern Sydney Region</u> <u>(Hornsby)</u>	<u>South Western Sydney Region</u> <u>(Bankstown Regional Office)</u>
Phone: 9987 3932 Fax: 9987 3928	Phone: 9796 5448 Fax: 8713 6509
<u>Sydney Region</u> <u>(St Peters)</u>	<u>Riverina Region</u> <u>(WaggaWagga)</u>
Phone: 9582 5849 Fax: 9582 5899	Phone: 6937 3813 Fax: 6937 3832
<u>Western NSW Region</u> <u>(Bathurst Office)</u>	<u>Western Sydney Region</u> <u>(Kingswood TAFE Campus)</u>
Phone: 6334 8203 Fax: 6332 1766	Phone: 9208 9638 Fax: 9208 9300

Catholic or Independent Schools

For Post School and Transition to school programmes in the **Catholic** or **Independent** school system, ask at your individual school. There are specialist support teachers who can help.

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Post School Education and Training
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace
relations

DEEWR have a National Disability Coordination Program which aims to assist people with a disability to gain access to post school education and training. Their goals are to improve transitions, increase participation and establish links between schools and tertiary establishments. There are 31 **National Disability Officers** and the contacts for those in NSW are listed below.

DEEWR have also information regarding tertiary scholarships available to people with a disability. Please **phone 133 873** or www.adcet.edu.au

Inner Sydney / Eastern Suburbs / St George-Sutherland	Centre for Developmental Disability Studies	Phone: 8878 0511
Canterbury / Bankstown / Inner West / Central West Sydney	University of Western Sydney	Phone 4570 1483
Lower Northern Sydney / Central North / Northern Beaches	Centre for Developmental Disability Studies	Phone 8878 0514
Outer South Western Sydney / Fairfield / Liverpool	University of Western Sydney	Phone 4570 1483
Outer Western Sydney / Blacktown	University of Western Sydney	Phone 4570 1483
Newcastle / Hunter SD Bal	University of Newcastle	Phone 4921 8844
New England	University of New England	Phone 6773 2130
Illawarra / South Coast	Northcott Disability Services	Phone 4262 7155
Central West	Central West Community College	Phone 6330 0907
ACT	Northcott Disability Services	Phone 6297 6988

Post School Assistance TAFE

TAFE have **consultants** for Intellectual Disabilities and contacts are as follows:

Bankstown / Lidcombe / Padstow	Phone: 9722 5359
Campbelltown / Liverpool / Macquarie Fields	Phone: 4620 1804
Granville / Wetherill Park	Phone: 9682 0384
Miller	Phone: 9825 7448
Baulkham Hills / Nirimba / Blacktown	Phone: 9865 9329
Blue Mountains / Kingswood / Penrith	Phone: 9208 9329
Mount Druitt / Richmond	Phone: 9208 6379

University Support

All universities have Disability Support. Contact the Student Support Services at your university if you have any difficulties and require assistance.

For information, practical advice and more, go to

www.uws.edu.au/ndco/getready

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Post School Options- Websites Phone Numbers **(Government Funded)**

TAFE OPTIONS (Call TAFE Information Line on 131 601)

www.tafensw.edu.au/schooltotafe/itsyourchoice/aboutyou.htm

www.tafensw.edu.au/students/support/disabilities.htm

Outreach Programmes

www.tafensw.edu.au/students/support/outreach.htm

TTVET (Vocational Education and Training)

www.tafensw.edu.au/translations/by_document/tvet/

DEPT of EDUCATION (Call DET 132 811)

www.det.nsw.edu.au/disabilityaccess/

Employment Options

www.workplace.gov.au/workplace/Individual/DisadvantagedJobseekers/DisabilityEmploymentNetwork

www.dest.gov.au

Australian Apprentices Access Program (AATP)

<https://acesstraining.dest.gov.au/Information/Information.aspx>

DADHC Post School Programmes (Call DADHC 1800 761 030)

www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au

<http://www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au/dadhc/People+with+a+disability/Post+School+Programs.htm>

Centrelink (One stop centres) (call Centrelink 1300 306 325)

www.centrelink.gov.au

Employment Services

There are a number of organisations that offer advice, support and assistance to people with a disability looking for employment. The following list is by no means exhaustive, but links on the websites take you to other providers.

Employment Services Information Line

Job Network of community and private employment services

Phone: 136 268

Disability Employment Assistance Programme

Supported open employment

Phone: 1300 653 227

ACE National Network

Open Employment for people with a disability

www.acenational.org.au

Disability Employment Services NSW

Community Based Employers

www.eeo.nsw.gov.au

Diversity@work

Consultancy/resources/training for inclusion support

www.diversityatwork.com.au

Disability Services Australia

Advice / assistance / information / assessment including Autism Spectrum Disorder

Phone: 9791 6599

www.dsa.org.au

Breakthru Employment Services

Advice / contacts / assistance / useful information leaflets incl. Autism Spectrum Disorder.

www.breakthru.com.au

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Job Access Advisor

Links / support / assistance

Phone: 1800 464 800

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NOVA Employment

Specialise in finding employment for young people with a disability

www.novaemployment.com.au

Phone: (02) 9833 5500

Job Support

Employment agency for people with an intellectual disability

www.jobsupport.org.au

Other Helpful Websites General Links/Information

Year 12 What Next

Information / guidance

www.year12whatnext.gov.au

Youth NSW

Articles / news / great links for young people starting out in the work force

www.youth.nsw.gov.au

Skilling NSW

Apprenticeship info/training/vocational education

www.skilling.nsw.gov.au

Job Juice

Assistance/advice/news/quizzes/job searches

www.jobjuice.gov.au

Young Australian Rural Network (YARN)

Information for young people in the rural workforce

www.yarn.gov.au

Autism Awareness

Good section on options and links

www.autismawareness.com.au/beyond-school

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Disability Specific

There are several non profit organisations which will offer support and practical assistance to develop and maintain the skills needed to function in the workplace. In some cases they organise information days often in conjunction with the **local council disability worker**.

Northcott

www.northcott.com.au

Phone: 1800 506 071 or 9890 0100

Ideas

www.ideas.org.au

Phone: 1800 029 904

AFFORD

www.afford.com.au

Phone: 9677 0955

Family Advocacy

www.family-advocacy.com

Phone 1800 620 588 or 9869 0866

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Information lines and directories

Autism Information Line

www.autismspectrum.org.au

infoline@autismspectrum.org.au

Tel: 02 8977 8377 (Sydney) or 1800 069 978 (outside Sydney)
(NSW wide service)

Provides information about available services in NSW and practical advice to callers who have an ASD, their family members and service providers

Commonwealth Carelink

www9.health.gov.au/ccsd/

Tel: 1800 052 222

(National service)

Provides information about a range of services available to people who have a disability and their family members who provide care. They have an infoline and online database.

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Through the Maze

Association for Children with a Disability NSW

www.acdnsw.org.au

Tel: 1300 851 603

(NSW wide directory)

A directory (printed in 2008) that provides information about services available around NSW for families who have a child with a disability. It provides explanations and contact info for all services. You can download the handbook from their website.

ASD information, resources and research

Autism Spectrum Australia

www.autismspectrum.org.au

Tel: 02 8977 8377 (Sydney) or 1800 069 978 (outside Sydney)

Autism Spectrum Australia offers a range of services for families including diagnosis, early intervention, schooling, publications and an Autism Information Line.

Autism Handbook

www.autismhandbook.com.au

An Australian handbook written by parents of children with an ASD in 2008. It provides an overview of diagnosis, early intervention and schooling.

Autism Help

www.autism-help.org

General information about ASD.

Book In Hand

www.bookinhand.com.au

Books and other resources about ASD

OASIS – Online Asperger’s Syndrome Information & Support

www.aspergersyndrome.org

General information about Asperger’s disorder.

Research Autism

www.researchautism.net

Provides independent information about research undertaken into ASD and interventions.

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See and Speak

www.seeandspeak.com.au

Website where you can find out about and buy visual aids for people with an ASD

Sensory Shop

www.sensoryshop.com

Website where you can find out about and buy sensory resources for people with an ASD

Technability

www.technability.com.au

Provides technology solutions for people with a disability

TAD

www.technicalaidsnsw.org.au

Phone: 9808 2022

Provides technology assistance including computer support.

Tony Attwood

www.tonyattwood.com.au

This website is a guide for parents, professionals and people with Asperger's disorder and their partners.

Carer support services

Commonwealth Carer Resource Centre

www.carersaustralia.com.au

www.carersnsw.asn.au

Tel: 1800 242 636

(National service)

Can provide information about support services and resources available for family members caring for a relative with a disability or chronic condition. Have publications available in various languages.

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Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre

Tel: 1800 059 059
(National service)

Provides respite options for families who are caring for a relative with a disability or chronic condition

Commonwealth Carelink

See useful information lines and directories

Young Carer Project

www.youngcarersnsw.asn.au

yc@carersnsw.asn.au

Tel: 1800 242 636
(NSW wide service)

This project has an interactive website, camps and information line for young people under the age of 25 years in NSW who help care for a relative with a disability, chronic illness, mental health issue or drug or alcohol problem

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

www.raisinggrandchildren.com.au

Tel: 02 9286 3860 or 1800 449 102 (for regional callers only)
(NSW wide service)

Provides information about support groups and services available to grandparents who are helping to raise their grandchildren.

Culturally specific services

Aboriginal Disability Network

www.pwd.org.au/adnsw

adnsw@pwd.org.au

Tel: 9370 3100 or 1800 611 889
(NSW wide service)

This organisation brings together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to share their stories, give each other support and create a voice for change

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Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW

www.mdaa.org.au

mdaa@mdaa.org.au

Tel: 9891 6400 or 1800 629 072

(NSW wide service)

This organisation provides advocacy for people from non English speaking backgrounds who have a disability and their family members

NSW Multicultural Health Communication Service

www.mhcs.health.nsw.gov.au

Tel: 9816 0347

(NSW wide service)

Has health information available in lots of different languages

The Language Factory

www.languagefactory.org.au

Provides Interpreters and Translators

Financial services

Centrelink

www.centrelink.gov.au

Tel: 13 27 17 (Disability & Carers)

(National service)

Provides financial support for family members who are caring for a relative with a disability (carer payment and carer allowance)

Government services

Department of Ageing Disability & Home Care (DADHC) InfoLine

Tel: (02) 8270 2000 or 1300 364 563

TTY: (02) 8270 2167

Regional offices www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au/dadhc/Contact+DADHC/DADHC+Regional.htm

DADHC provide a range of services for people who have a disability.

Disability Worker, Local Council

www.dlg.nsw.gov.au

Local councils usually have a disability worker who can provide information about local services

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Health professionals

Australian Association of Occupational Therapists (OT)

www.ausot.com.au

(National service)

Search their online database to find an OT in your area

Australian Psychological Society

www.psychology.org.au

(National service)

Search their online database to find a Psychologist in your area

Speech Pathology Australia

www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

(National service)

Search their online database to find a Speech Pathologist in your area

Technical aids

Technical Aid for the Disabled

www.technicalaidnsw.org.au

Tel: 9912 3400 or 1300 663 243 (Calls from Outside Sydney)

(NSW wide service)

Can provide technical supports to enable people with disabilities to develop independency and encourage participation in the community, for example, computers

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