



June 2024

Hi ,

ACD is delighted that Victorian government schools will move to a best-practice approach to teaching reading, starting in 2025. This announcement by Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll will make a positive difference for students with disability. We want to acknowledge the advocacy of many families speaking up for change.

Recently I spoke at the Parliamentary Inquiry into the State Education System in Victoria and shared what we hear from families about their child's experiences at school.

I highlighted the importance of an inclusive 'can-do' attitude from principals, more support for teachers to implement reasonable adjustments, and increased accountability and transparency so students with disability can get the most out of their education.

Karen Dimmock, CEO



If your child's NDIS Plan Reassessment is coming up, this free online workshop will explain the terminology and provide useful information to help you prepare for the reassessment meeting with confidence.

Topics in this 90-minute, online workshop include:

- Preparing for a reassessment meeting
- Gathering supporting evidence
- Advocating for your child's needs

This workshop is **FREE** but with only two sessions available, register quickly!

[Register now](#)



Envisage - free program for families

"I learnt to focus more on what my child loves to do rather than being overwhelmed by lots of therapy exercises" - Parent

Envisage is a free program for parents raising children with developmental delay and disability from birth to 8.

What families say about Envisage:

- It helped me to improve my relationship with my children
- Envisage gave me the confidence to trust my instincts, I know my children best
- I loved connecting with other mums, it made me feel less isolated

Envisage sessions start in Term 3 and there are online and in-person options.

Envisage is funded by the Australian Government and is free for families.

If you are a parent, or you know families who might be interested, please register today and an ACD team member will contact you.

[Register your interest](#)

Free counselling for you and your family

Family Relationship Support for Carers (FRSC) is a Victorian Government funded service that provides free counselling and mediation for parents and carers of children with disability.

Services are offered to individuals, couples, siblings or the whole family and are available to families across Victoria.

FRSC can help with future planning, mediating family conflict, and counselling to work through issues connected with your caring role.

Sessions can be face-to-face, by telephone, or online.

[Learn more](#)



Behaviour support in your child's NDIS Plan

If your child has behaviour that is challenging to manage, you may be able to get support through your child's NDIS Plan.

To get behaviour support in your child's NDIS Plan, you will need to provide evidence of your child's behaviour and have a goal of improved relationships, such as 'I would like support to increase my ability to understand my emotions and behaviour'.

Behaviour support is usually NDIA managed. This means that you can only use NDIA registered practitioners to develop these plans and strategies.

[Read more](#)



Hidden Disabilities Sunflower

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower lets others know that you or your child has a disability or condition that may not be immediately apparent. Also, you may need a helping hand, understanding, or more time on transport or in public spaces.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower is recognised by Metro Trains, airports across Australia, shopping centres, libraries and more.

You can pick up free Hidden Disability Sunflower products from major train stations, the City of Melbourne tourism hubs and Travellers Aid at Flinders Street and Southern Cross stations. You can also order low-cost lanyards and wristbands online.

[Read more](#)

Little Dreamers - helping young carers

Siblings can miss out as families juggle caring responsibilities. Siblings can also be 'young carers', providing practical and emotional support to their siblings with disability.

Little Dreamers provides opportunities for young carers to participate in free and low-cost school holiday excursions, social groups, homework tutoring and mentoring.

[Discover more](#)



AFL kids go for free

Have fun at the AFL! Children aged 14 and under can go to AFL games in Rounds 16 to 19 for FREE. You need to book tickets in advance.

The MCG, Marvel Stadium and Kardinia Park all have:

- Accessible toilets
- Wheelchair seating
- Sensory rooms
- Social stories

[More information](#)

Best wishes

The ACD team

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Association for
Children with a
Disability

[03 9880 7000](tel:0398807000) | [1800 654 013](tel:1800654013) (regional)

Level 1, 587 Canterbury Road Surrey Hills VIC 3127

ACD acknowledges the traditional owners of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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