

WHAT DOES DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION MEAN AT HOSPITAL SCHOOL SA?

Our approach to diversity is unique - Inclusion. Every time. All the time.

Every student can be included and provided a learning environment.

Hospital School SA is uniquely positioned in hospital environments where the broad spectrums of human diversity are talked about and often visible or acknowledged. We pay attention to the differences among our students in order to most appropriately respond and educate.

Collectively, we come equipped and experienced with a broad range of skill sets and abilities to respond to and address diversity in our students. Leaders, teachers and support staff liaise with each other in order to call on their specific skills, knowledge or actions to support students. When a new experience presents itself, we remain open to the learning and growth which comes from exposure to new and unique qualities in individuals.

Diversity is an acknowledgement of difference.

Some elements of diversity come with a name, a label or a diagnosis. Others are yet to be discovered or are not as frequently spoken about.

This includes, but is not limited to, the following areas of human experience, skill and being:

- developmental stage
- chronological age
- skills, abilities and knowledge
- sensory abilities
- physical form
- gender
- sexuality
- energetic health and capacity
- diet
- behavioural expression
- emotional experience and expression
- physical and other regulatory abilities
- mental health
- race
- culture
- language
- non-verbal communication
- neurobiology

Inclusion is the approach, attitude and process of bringing people into a shared space or activity.

Providing easy physical access to spaces or activities is as important as providing open and welcome learning environments through the use of appropriate behaviour and communication skills. At HSSA we expect and embrace differences among our students, staff and others and encourage our students, and their support people, to share information about their lived experience.

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The Department for Education SA has policies and papers which provide information about how our organisation and its employees are guided to supporting diversity in the school.

DISABILITY

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/children-and-students-disability-policy

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/principles-inclusion-children-and-students-disability-education-and-care

DIET AND SUBSTANCE EXPOSURE

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/anaphylaxis-and-severe-allergies-education-and-care-procedure

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/health-support-planning-anaphylaxis-and-allergies-education-and-care

ORAL EATING & FOOD SENSITIVITY

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/oral-eating-and-drinking-education-and-care-procedure

MEDICATION

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/medication-management-education-and-care-procedure

GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY

www.education.sa.gov.au/parents-and-families/safety-and-wellbeing/gender-diverse-intersex-and-sexually-diverse-children-and-young-people

AUTISM SPECTRUM

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/autism-spectrum-guideline

MENTAL, EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

www.education.sa.gov.au/suicide-response

BEHAVIOUR & COMMUNICATION

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/behaviour-support-policy

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/protective-practices-staff-their-interactions-children-and-young-people

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/responding-problem-sexual-behaviour-children-and-young-people

NUMERACY & LITERACY

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/numeracy-and-literacy-strategy

www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/statewide-special-options-placement-criteria-speech-and-language-classes