

# Teaching Assistants in Inclusive Schools

## An Online Short Course in Supporting Students with Intellectual Disability



### Course details

Teaching Assistants play an invaluable role in supporting the education of students with disabilities.

The **Teaching Assistants in Inclusive Schools** short course is designed for school support staff (teacher aides, teaching assistants, learning support officers) to assist them to develop the foundation knowledge and skills required to successfully support students with disabilities within inclusive schools. The course will focus on intellectual disability and its associated diagnoses (including Down syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorder).

#### **Your registration includes:**

- 5 hours of on demand online professional development sessions available to view throughout the month of November
- Certificate of Attendance
- BONUS digital resources – readings and resources to support you in your role

#### **Registration Fees - International attendees**

General registration: \$159AUD per person (*no GST applies*)

Group registration: \$139AUD per person (*no GST applies*) for groups of 4 or more registered in the same booking

### Course content

Session 1 (90 min)

***Introduction to Inclusive Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities: What Every Teaching Assistant Needs to Know***

*Presented by Amanda Corby and Rachel Carr*

Session 2 (90min)

***Improving Access & Outcomes for Students with Intellectual Disability: Practical Strategies for Support***

*Presented by Amanda Corby and Rachel Carr*

Session 3 (60min)

***Re-thinking The Role of Teaching Assistants in Inclusive Schools***

*Presented by Amanda Corby*

Session 4 (60min)

***Positive Behaviour Support for Teaching Assistants***

*Presented by Rachel Carr*

*Please turn over for session overviews*

**For more information and to register, visit:**

**[www.illumelarning.com.au/events](http://www.illumelarning.com.au/events)**

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## Session Overviews

### **Session 1** (90min)

#### **Introduction to Inclusive Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities: What Every Teaching Assistant Needs to Know**

This session will provide an introduction to all of the key elements of inclusive education: the research, principles, beliefs and values. We'll explore how the way we view disability has changed over time including societal attitudes and the way we use language. Finally, the diagnosis of intellectual disability will be examined and the characteristics that may require support in an educational context will be identified.

### **Session 2** (90min)

#### **Improving Access & Outcomes for Students with Intellectual Disability: Practical Strategies for Support**

In week one we looked at the theory, this week is all about practice. We'll be sharing the strategies, tools, and resources that can be used to support students with intellectual disability in an educational context. This session explores memory, vision, fine and gross motor, sensory processing, literacy, numeracy and more.

### **Session 3** (60min)

#### **Re-thinking The Role of Teaching Assistants in Inclusive Schools**

In this presentation, we will review the latest research internationally and provide practical, evidence-based recommendations to support Teaching Assistants. Examples of best practice from schools across Australia and New Zealand will be shared and focus on practical changes that can be made within educational settings to ensure the presence of a teaching assistant results in the best outcomes possible, both academically and socially.

### **Session 4** (60min)

#### **Positive Behaviour Support for Teaching Assistants**

All behaviour is communication, and sometimes it's our role to work out exactly what's being communicated. This session will explore the foundations of positive behaviour support including the considerations to be made when working to identify the function of a student's behaviour. A range of practical strategies and tools will be shared with the aim of adding to your toolbox and increasing your confidence to support student behaviour.

## Speakers



### **Amanda Corby**

Amanda brings a wealth of knowledge, with 18 years experience in the education and disability sectors. An experienced classroom teacher whose passion for inclusive education was ignited by witnessing the outcomes for her students, Amanda has since worked in a number of Education Consultancy roles and authored educational resources including Illume Reading, Reading Our Way, and Enabled Learning: Educating a Student with Down Syndrome.



### **Rachel Carr**

With 15 years of experience in the disability and education fields, Rachel has taken on a range of roles including consultant, trainer, behaviour support practitioner, program coordinator, and family support officer. She also brings a lifetime of shared experience as the sister of a wonderful man who has Down syndrome. Rachel's areas of expertise include Down syndrome, intellectual disability, behaviour, visual supports, and the NDIS.

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