



2015

Homeschooling Support Program Prospectus



childpsych Pty Ltd

ACN 125165433 ABN 27210814326

Phone 07 3716 0445

Clinic 2/606 Sherwood Rd,

Sherwood Qld 4075

www.childpsychlearning.net.au



Welcome

Thank you for enquiring about enrolment in our Homeschooling Support Program at childpsych.

Our Homeschooling Support Program is suitable for students not receiving an education through a regular school. Such students are typically enrolled in School of Distance Education or Home Education programs but you may not be yet. Our Homeschooling Support Program is delivered through the *childpsych learning centre* by experienced teachers with expertise in special education. Our teachers are supported by a team of child Educational and Clinical Psychologists. Our goal is to support students and their families to ensure the student receives a quality education. We are aware that for some students, alternate learning environments are necessary. We believe that this alternate learning environment needs to be able to take into account the “whole child”. At childpsych we are able to cater for the whole child by providing educational and psychological services to the student at the same time. While we can provide individual teaching support, we are also able to offer small group learning environments where students can learn alongside other students of a similar grade. This provides a social experience for the student as well as a supportive learning environment. As well as teaching students, our specialist teachers are able to assist parents in setting up learning plans, developing worksheets to maximise learning as well as liaise with the school if the student is only partially homeschooled. Our prospectus provides more specific details on the range of services we can offer.

I encourage you to read over our prospectus and to complete the application at the end. If you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Kind regards

Philip Gosschalk
Clinical & Educational Psychologist | Director

Home education for a child, means the education of a child is provided by one or both of the child's parents, or a registered teacher, primarily at the child's usual place of residence. Home education looks different from child to child, family to family, and from year to year.

Prospectus

Who We Are

The childpsych learning centre is now offering a distance education / home schooling support program for students in grades prep to 12. Our program is run by qualified teachers with experience in special education and learning difficulties. The learning centre is part of childpsych psychology practice, one of Brisbane's largest child and adolescent psychology practices. At childpsych our role is to support you and the student to experience success in your Home Based Education. We are here to work collaboratively with you to obtain the best possible outcomes for the student. We are well placed to support students who have other difficulties such as, autism, anxiety, depression, behavioural problems and so on.

Our Educational Support Philosophy

The childpsych learning centre is based on three principles:



Best evaluation

We understand that a child has other needs beyond just "learning". Our teachers have worked alongside their psychology colleagues to maximize a student's learning outcomes. Students have been treated for anxiety while also being supported in their education by childpsych psychologists and teachers. There is a need therefore for a thorough assessment that includes: learning needs, social and emotional needs, family needs. Entry into the childpsych learning centre typically involves an assessment by a psychologist and teacher. This allows us to develop an individual educational support program that best suits the student.



Best instruction

We only employ specialist teachers with experience in working with students with special needs. Education should be an enjoyable yet challenging journey for any student and educator/parent. Throughout the journey the student needs to be taught how develop and sustain an appreciation and attraction of lifelong learning. Facilitation of such processes requires educators to support and assist the child's emotional and social dimensions to learning as well as develop curriculum and academic achievements. For example, a student may receive counselling for his/her anxiety with having to write while also receiving tuition. At childpsych we start by working with the child. We identify and value each child as an individual and place emphasis on developing individual

learning goals to help achieve appropriate outcomes in both intellectual and social emotional well-being. We respond to the child's diverse needs by providing the opportunities for the child and his/her family to engage and work collaboratively our team to promote the appreciation and attraction of lifelong learning with their child.



Best learning environment

Some of our students are solely homeschooled, and some are partly enrolled in school. We believe that an educational environment needs to be flexible for some students and this can mean attending our practice for weekly tuition lessons with other students while spending the rest of the week in a mainstream school setting. Some parents have set the goals of homeschooling their child for a short period of time and hope to have their child in full time schooling over time. We are prepared to work in whatever way that meets the student's needs and does not hold them back from reaching their potential. This belief is based on a special education principle called *the least restrictive environment*.

The aim of the childpsych Home school Support Program

The aim of the childpsych Home school Support Program is to provide a variety of programs to support both parent/carers and children who are accessing alternate schooling programs such as Home Education or School of Distance Education programs.

Where Our Services are Delivered

The student can usually receive our Home Education Support Services:

- At the childpsych learning centre in Sherwood
- In their own home from the teacher
- Via phone/Skype or remotely

Services

We provide a variety of services to match the learning needs of the student but also the needs of the parent(s).

❖ Individual/Group Learning Sessions

Students can attend tuition groups to not only help them complete the work set by the Education Queensland School of Distance Education, but also to receive teaching support as they would in a classroom. More specifically, we can assist by:

- Assistance with assessments – explaining, simplifying

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- Lesson revision – focuses on areas the student has been having difficulties with
- knowledge and skill revision applicable to current unit of work / subject
- tuition / intervention program in required areas of the curriculum: E.g. spelling and grammar
- Goal setting and monitoring

❖ Social skills / Peer Interaction Groups

We are aware that some home schooled students have social difficulties. We can provide:

- Opportunities for the student to socialise with other children who are also being homeschooled
- Access to the Social Kids™ program to develop social skills



❖ Advisory Services

We know that making sense of the distance education curriculum and how to teach it is daunting for parents/carers. We can assist by:

Curriculum program assistance

- Identifying the learning needs of the student through formal assessments and reports
- Assisting the parent/carer on how to make appropriate changes to the student's home education curriculum program to cater for his/her learning needs
- Collaboratively documenting individual learning plan goals
- Designing and modelling different ways to assist the child to achieve these in the home setting
- Assisting with negotiating a part homeschooling and part mainstream schooling placement
- Establishing a home school study schedule for each school term
- Assessment timetabling and preparation

Services

Social skills

Individual Tuition

Group Tuition

Teaching Advice

Program Modification

Resource Development

- Matching curriculum resources to curriculum plan

Parent education sessions

- How to make sense of the curriculum - What are the curriculum expectations and curriculum content being taught?, What skills and knowledge does the student need to have prior to commencing?, What skills will the student be learning?, Is there any pre-teaching required?. The level of advice provided will vary according to year level and subjects involved.
- If the student has a disability, then we will teach the parent/carer disability specific strategies to promote active learning and engagement with curriculum
- Teach the parent/carer how to promote positive learning behaviours in the student
- Learning motivation / on task work strategies (advice, modelling and resources)
- Understanding and interpreting the online learning resources / Subject material used as part of the student's curriculum program such as Learning place, Edstudio, learning objects, eLearn / Blackboard – online resources and lessons, iConnect / Elluminate – online classroom / web conferences and Other online resources and websites
 - Assistance with getting the student started with online learning
 - Setting up study routine and timetable within home environment
 - Developing an assessment timetable for term, especially for secondary students



❖ Curriculum Program Modification Services

Sometimes students have trouble understanding the work set for them by the School of Distance Education. We can help through:

- Adjusting/modifying worksheets and work tasks by simplifying written instructions
- Breaking activities/assessment down into smaller tasks so that it is not so overwhelming and more achievable
- Prioritising learning – listing tasks according to importance, link to assessments and time allocations
- Extra learning tasks to assist with reinforcement and consolidation of concepts

❖ Resource Assistance

We can assist the parent/carer to teach the student more effectively by:

- Providing parent/carer “cheat sheets” - guides and charts to assist with online curriculum navigation
- Assistance with locating resources (internet, workbooks etc)

Who is Eligible

1. Any student accessing an alternate school program (home education – School of Distance Education) OR not currently able to attend formal schooling
2. Parents/carers wanting regular academic support for their child who is accessing an alternate home schooling program

How to enrol

To enrol in our program, complete the *Expression of Interest Application* at the end of this document and send to our office. You will be contacted by us to attend an interview to ensure we are able to support the student. A teacher and/or an Educational Psychologist will conduct the interview. The aim of the interview is to better delineate the student's needs and ensure we are able to support the student.

The childpsych difference

1. Your child's initial evaluation is conducted by an experienced **Teacher** or **Educational Psychologist**. These professionals are trained to understand various learning difficulties and disabilities as well as determine the most appropriate remedial program.
2. Your child's educational program is conducted by a **specialist teacher** experienced in learning support. This professional understands the learning needs of students with problems such as Dyslexia, Autism, ADHD and Dyspraxia to name a few.
3. Your child's program is **individualised**. We match our interventions to the student. We do not use a pre-designed curriculum based on a set number of sessions that the student must complete. In other words we **teach** the student and do not rely upon software programs or a pre-determined number of sessions.
4. Your child's progress will be **monitored** at regular intervals and a Progress Meeting arranged with the specialist Teacher.
5. Our learning centre is part of a well established and respected child psychology practice. This means that a **range of expertise** is available to assist with any other barriers to the student's learning. For example, if the student has an anxiety problem or difficulty with their behaviour, then we can assist.
6. The interventions we select for the student are based on **evidence-based practices** that have stood up to scientific scrutiny. We will not give false hope or claim to "fix" all learning difficulties. What we can promise however is to assist the student to progress and continue to learn.

Case Examples

“Sarah”

Sarah is 15 years old and diagnosed with an Asperger’s Disorder. She is anxious in social situations and becomes highly distressed if in social environment such as schools. She often runs away or leaves school grounds. Sarah underwent a comprehensive psycho educational evaluation by a childpsych psychologist which showed that she had Social Phobia but also a Disorder of Written Expression. Sarah attends the learning centre once a week for an hour in a small tuition group. She also receives regular counselling from a psychologist to treat her anxieties.

“Peter”

Peter is in Grade 12 and has depression. He is enrolled in the School of Distance Education program where a private tutor assists him. He attends the childpsych learning centre twice per week where the teacher oversees his program and provides advice to the private tutor. He also attends weekly counselling at childpsych for his depression.

Coordinator

Leanne Ruddock

DipTeach(Prim)

Senior Learning Support Teacher

Leanne has worked in the education system for over 25 years. She has worked as a classroom teacher across the primary school as well as in learning support roles. Leanne has a passion for teaching children with learning difficulties.

Homeschooling Support Program

Expression of Interest Application

Personal Details

Student's Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Address: _____

Parent/Carer Contact Details

Name: _____ Phone Contact: _____(home)

_____ (mobile)

Address: _____

Preferred method of contact: Please tick phone: _____

email _____

mail _____ other _____

Person/s responsible for teaching child homeschool program: _____

Homeschool / School of Distance Education Details

Current Year Level: _____

Last year of enrolment at a school site for the student: _____

Education Institution/ School for Curriculum Access: _____

Date of Registration: ____/____/____

Date of Registration Confirmation: ____/____/____

Reason/s for enrolment in Homeschool Education: _____

Educational Details of the Student

Please fill in the table below indicating the student's most recent academic achievement level in the these subject areas:

List any other subjects that the student has received achievement levels for

Subject Area	Achievement level / comment	Subject Area	Achievement level / comment
Mathematics			
English			
Science			
SOSE			
The Arts			
HPE (Physical Education)			
Languages			

Please indicate any concerns regarding the student with the following

Academic:

Mathematics:

Reading:

Writing:

Spelling:

Work Behaviours:

Comprehending verbal and/or written instructions:

Individual motivation:

Staying on task:

Task completion:

Social-Emotional Well-being

If the student has a diagnosed condition, please indicate below. If not, but you are concerned about the student's emotional health, please provide details in the space provided.

[] Anxiety [] Depression [] Autism [] AD/HD [] Other_____

Has the student accessed any of these services before?

Service	Name of Service Provider	Date of last visit
Paediatrician / Specialist		
Psychologist/Psychiatrist		
Speech Therapy		
Occupational Therapy		
Learning Support / Tuition		
Other		

Parent/Carer Goals for Homeschool Education Program Support.

Reasons for accessing Homeschool Education Program Support

How would you like the Home school Education Program Support to assist the student?

Send this completed application to:

Post: Homeschooling Program – childpsych, PO Box 405, Sherwood Q 4075

OR

Facsimile: 07 3379 8965

OR

Email: admin@childpsych.net.au

We will contact you within 5 business days