

Positive Special Needs Parenting

Help & support for parents & providers



As a special needs parent, disability advocate, writer, speaker and consultant, I assist schools and disability service providers better understand the needs of special needs families.

Sharing my own experience, I help others understand what it's really like to live a special needs life and identify ways to improve interactions and relationships with special needs parents by:

- developing resources for both parents and providers,
- sharing strategies that work,
- writing articles to cultivate understanding,
- spreading awareness by speaking to the wider community and
- providing personalised consulting services.

Services Available

I'm available for consultation sessions to answer your questions & help you find ways to better connect and serve special needs families. I provide first-hand insight as a special needs parent and I also offer consultancy and specialist in-service sessions to address specific areas of concern.

An experienced writer, I've developed website copy, client programs, blog posts, email marketing, social media updates and presentations for businesses in the disability sector. I also assist with instructional design, procedures, templates, grant applications, technical writing, reports and program development.

A confident speaker, I'm experienced in developing and delivering information sessions to client families. I can develop presentations for you, coach your speakers, or, alternatively, present sessions for you. I also provide in service training and professional development sessions to improve staff knowledge and understanding.

Targeted Services

Parents: often, it takes a fellow parent to connect with special needs parents. I know what it's like as I live it every single day. My aim is to reach fellow parents and help them find the positives in their situation, better advocate for their kids and connect them to relevant services.

- I'm available for speaking, consulting and one on one sessions, where I share my own experiences and what I've learned along the way.
- I can deliver presentations on a range of topics, including managing transitions, how to effectively advocate with schools, the principles of relationship management and how to stay positive as a special needs parent.
- I can lead more informal carer events, to build trust and rapport. These could tie into school open days or information nights for both new and existing families.
- I can assist you in writing and developing parent-centred resources for new and existing families. As examples, resources could include welcome material, guides to advocacy, interacting with the school, how to seek help and support as a parent, transition resources and life after school.

Schools: I offer information sessions to teachers, providing them with greater understanding of the needs of special needs families plus practical guidance on how they can better support them through school transitions. I'm available for consultation, training sessions and speaking engagements, for both staff and parents and I always tailor information and topics based on your needs.

- I'm available to provide insight into the parent experience to teachers, staff and professionals to improve understanding, strengthen relationships and improve student outcomes.
- I can deliver presentations on a range of topics, including what parents wish you knew, the importance of building advocacy skills in parents, how to build strong parent-school relationships and ways you can better support your families.
- I can assist you in developing resources to support stronger relationships with parents.
- I can deliver in-service presentations, professional development and general information sessions to improve communications and engagement with families.

If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Kirsty Russell on 0418 669 653 or send an email to kirsty@positivespecialneedsparenting.com