

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

Sharing my own experience, I help others understand how hard it is for families to navigate the system and identify ways to improve interactions and relationships with families by:

- Providing valuable insight into the parent experience
- Sharing strategies that work
- Focusing on developing positive relationships
- Delivering quality professional development
- Offering personalised consulting services.

## Services Available

**Consultation sessions** to answer your questions & help you find ways to better connect and serve families. I provide first-hand insight as a parent of children with disabilities and can offer consultancy and specialist in-service sessions to address specific areas of concern.

**Writing services** to help you connect more authentically with families. I can develop website copy, client programs, blog posts, email marketing, social media updates and presentations together with instructional design, procedures, templates, reports and program development.

**Professional development** to share valuable insight from the parent perspective. I can develop presentations for you, deliver sessions for parents and carers and present in-service training and professional development sessions to improve staff knowledge and understanding.

Kirsty Russell Consulting May 2021

## **Targeted Services**

## Parents:

Armed with first-hand knowledge, I connect with fellow parents through shared experience. I aim to help parents find the positives in their situation, enhance their advocacy skills, achieve positive outcomes 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 facilitate 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:**

Quality professional development activities help teachers gain a genuine understanding of the parent experience to improve school-family relationships. In turn, this increases parent engagement and delivers more positive outcomes for the school, the student and their family.

- I can 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 practical resources to support stronger relationships with parents.
- I can deliver in-service presentations, professional development and general information sessions to improve communication and engagement with families.

If you're interested in finding out more, call Kirsty Russell on 0418 669 653 or email hello@kirstyrussell.com.au

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