

Supporting Autistic Learners

Strengthen Autistic student learning, wellbeing and belonging with our research-informed micro-credential.



Understand autism. Create belonging. Improve outcomes.



Flexible design

One course -
four standalone
modules



Estimated time commitment

12 hours
per module



Duration

Self-paced



Delivery mode

Online



Start date

Early 2027



Cost

Free

Overview

Autistic students are part of every Australian school community. Understanding how autism may influence communication, learning, sensory processing, wellbeing and participation is essential to creating inclusive learning environments where students can thrive. The Supporting Autistic Learners micro-credential has been developed to help educators build confidence and capability in supporting Autistic students across school settings.

Developed by Adelaide University in partnership with Aspect (Autism Spectrum Australia), this evidence-informed course combines current research with practical strategies that educators can immediately apply in their classrooms and schools. Structured around a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) framework, the course explores universal, targeted and intensive approaches that strengthen learning, wellbeing and belonging for Autistic students.

You will deepen your understanding of autism, explore your professional and legislative responsibilities, and develop practical strategies to support Autistic learners through strengths-based, neuro-affirming approaches.

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education.

Key learnings

Our Supporting Autistic Learners course is aligned with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and informed by contemporary research, national guidance and evidence-informed practice. The course supports educators to strengthen inclusive teaching and improve outcomes for Autistic students. You'll also:

- explore contemporary understandings of autism and what they mean for schooling

- develop practical strategies that support learning, participation, wellbeing and belonging
- learn how to implement effective universal, targeted and individualised supports
- strengthen partnerships with families and multidisciplinary support teams
- develop classroom and whole-school action plans that can be applied in your context
- connect with an online community of educators to share ideas, strategies and resources
- work toward a potential credit pathway for postgraduate study at the Adelaide University.

Is this course for me?

The micro-credential is designed for Australian school teachers, leaders, support staff and other professionals working in educational settings, and pre-service teachers. It is suitable for educators across primary and secondary contexts who are seeking practical, evidence-informed approaches to supporting Autistic students.

How will I benefit?

This course will strengthen your understanding of autism and build your confidence in supporting Autistic students in the classroom. You will gain access to practical tools, planning resources and evidence-informed strategies that can be immediately implemented to support learning, wellbeing and engagement.

You will leave with a stronger understanding of how to identify student strengths, reduce barriers to participation and create learning environments that support success for Autistic learners.



How will my students benefit?

Autistic students thrive when educators understand their strengths, recognise and respond to potential barriers to learning, and create supportive environments where they feel safe, valued and included. By applying the strategies explored throughout this micro-credential, students can experience improved access to learning, stronger relationships, increased participation and a greater sense of belonging at school.

Students will benefit from teaching practices that are more responsive, inclusive and tailored to their individual needs, helping them engage more successfully in both academic and social aspects of school life.

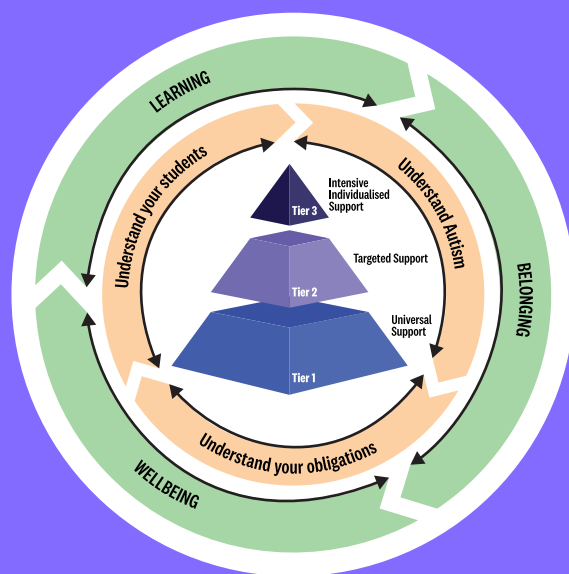
How will my organisation benefit?

When educators share a common understanding of autism and inclusive practice, schools are better positioned to create positive and consistent learning experiences for students. This micro-credential supports schools to strengthen staff capability, build inclusive cultures and implement evidence-informed approaches that improve outcomes for Autistic students across the school community.

The course will also support implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Supports framework and promote greater consistency in how Autistic students are supported across classrooms and year levels.

School leaders can use this micro-credential to support a whole-school approach to inclusion by encouraging staff to undertake the course together. The readings, activities, planning tools and practical strategies can form the basis of professional learning conversations, collaborative inquiry and ongoing school improvement initiatives.

The course supports schools to establish a shared understanding of autism, strengthen inclusive teaching practices and create greater consistency in the supports provided to Autistic students. It also helps leaders align professional learning with broader inclusion, wellbeing and student achievement priorities.



- Module 1:** Autism and what it means for schooling
- Module 2:** Universal supports for Autistic students
- Module 3:** Targeted supports for Autistic students
- Module 4:** Intensive individualised supports for autistic students

Further information on course content and learning outcomes will be added to the website once enrolments open.



Register your interest to find out more about this microcredential

adelaide.edu.au/study/learning-futures/micro-credentials

Further enquiries

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Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Kaurna, Boandik, and Barngarla First Nations Peoples and their Elders past and present, who are the Traditional Owners of the lands that are home to our campuses across Adelaide and South Australia.