

## Hear for Kids in School Referral Form

The **Hear for Kids in School** program is funded by the Specialist Disability Support in Schools (SDSS) Program and run by Deaf Connect. It provides **speech language pathology** services to eligible Deaf and hard of hearing children in Prep, Year One and Year Two attending State, Catholic and Independent Schools.

The **Hear for Kids in School** therapists work collaboratively with teachers, other school supports and parents to improve educational opportunities and enhance learning outcomes for students.

### Eligibility for Hear for Kids in School

**To be eligible to receive an SDSS service from the Hear for Kids in School program, a student must be enrolled in a Queensland school (state or non-state) and be identified in one of the following ways:**

- A student who was recorded in the latest submission of the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) as receiving supplementary, substantial, or extensive adjustments.
- A student where the school requires assistance to address a barrier to the student's physical access to the school environment.
- A student **who is new to the school (including Prep students)**, where the school has evidence of a diagnosed disability and has confirmed by the end of Term 1 that the adjustments provided are consistent with any of these descriptors in the NDSS guidelines (please refer to the 'NCCD selecting the level of adjustment' matrix)
  - **Supplementary:** The student receives adjustments supplementary to the strategies and resources already available to all students within the school for particular activities **at specific times throughout the weeks.**
  - **Substantial:** The student has substantial support needs and receives essential adjustments and requires considerable assistance to the usual education program **at most times, on most days.**
  - **Extensive:** The student has very high support needs and is provided with extensive targeting measures and sustained levels of intensive support **at all times.**

*It is recognised that a small number of students with a disability require support to access and participate in education on the same basis of their peers without a disability as soon as they commence school. For Prep students or new students at a school, where the student has a diagnosed disability and documented ongoing complex needs, schools can apply for SDSS Program services to commence at the start of the school year if the student requires immediate support to access and participate in learning and/or for their safe attendance at school.*

### How to complete this referral form

This form has three parts. All sections need to be completed in order for Hear for Kids in School to provide a service.

- Part 1: Student details and student eligibility for SDSS program support
- Part 2: Parent/Carer details and consent
- Part 3: School details and consent

**Please provide copies of the following to assist the team to provide services to the student:**

- The student's most recent hearing assessment
- Therapy reports; Personal Learning Plans etc.

### How to return this referral form

Please return to Deaf Connect:

Email: [therapy.info@deafconnect.org.au](mailto:therapy.info@deafconnect.org.au)

Postal: PO Box 465, Moorooka, QLD, 4105

A **Hear for Kids in School** team member will contact you after receiving the completed form. If you have any questions regarding the referral or would like further information, please contact Fiona Hansen on 07 3848 0080 or at [therapy.info@deafconnect.org.au](mailto:therapy.info@deafconnect.org.au).

Date of Referral:	
<b>PART 1 – STUDENT DETAILS</b>	
Surname:	Given Names:
Date of Birth:	Male      Female
School:	School year level:

Proudly supported by the  
Department of Education



**The student requires support with:**

(Ctrl, Left Mouse Click for multiple selection)

**Student's Hearing Status:**

**Copy of the Students' most recent Hearing Assessment / Audiogram is Required**

Left Ear

Right Ear

When was the student's hearing loss diagnosed?

Type of Hearing Loss

If other:

Please indicate which devices the student is using:

If other:

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**Support student is receiving at school** - Please indicate below the support/services student currently receiving at school:

Special Education Program / Learning Support

Advisory Teachers Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Speech Language Pathology

Occupational Therapy

Other (please specify)

Please provide details of the support staff that you would like Deaf Connect to liaise with when providing services to the student: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Therapy Services:** Is the student accessing speech therapy services outside of school? If so, please provide details:

Name of Speech Language Pathologist \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide copies of any relevant therapy reports**

### Evidence of Eligibility

The following information must be provided in order for *Hear for Kids in School* to visit.

**CHECK THE RELEVANT BOX REGARDING STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:**

Students who were recorded in the latest submission of the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) as receiving supplementary, substantial or extensive adjustments; **OR**

A student where the school requires assistance to address a barrier to the student's physical access to the school environment; **OR**

A student who is new to the school (including Prep students), where the school has evidence of a diagnosed disability and has confirmed by the end of Term 1 that the adjustments provided are consistent with any of these descriptors in the NDSS guidelines (please refer to the 'NCCD selecting the level of adjustment' matrix) - **Supplementary/Substantial/Extensive**

### PART 2 – PARENT/CARER DETAILS

Parent/Carer Name:	Parent/Carer Name:
Contact Number:	Contact Number:
Email:	Email:
Primary Language spoken at home:	Other Languages:
Interpreter required? Yes                  No	Language:

### Parent/Carer Consent

**Privacy Statement:** Deaf Connect collects, uses and discloses a child's personal information such as their medical, developmental and educational status and history for the sole purpose of delivering professional services. The information will be kept in a secure location. The information collected will be used by Deaf Connect, the Healthy Hearing Program and Education Queensland. The child's personal information will not be given to any other person or external body unless consent has been provided or Deaf Connect is required by law to use or disclose such information. Information given to professionals is for the purpose of informing their professional service to the child and they are required to abide by confidentiality guidelines as set out by the relevant professional bodies. De-identified information may be used for reporting and research purposes as required by the SDSS protocols and for dissemination of programme data. To access or seek correction of your personal information or to obtain copies of privacy policies go to [www.deafconnect.org.au](http://www.deafconnect.org.au), <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/> and <http://qed.qld.gov.au>.

**Therapy Permission**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's name), parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name), give permission for my child/dependent to receive professional services from employees of Deaf Connect (through Speech Language Pathologists and Occupational Therapists) and consent to my child receiving one-on-one sessions in a separate room to the classroom?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission To Release/Access Information**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's name), parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) give permission for employees of Deaf Connect to contact health, education and other professions involved in my child/dependent's care and to access information as indicated by professional services provided. I give permission for employees of Deaf Connect to release written and/or verbal information to professionals employed at the organisations involved in my child's care, for the purpose of optimising diagnostic or therapeutic services. I understand that employees of Deaf Connect will abide by the confidentiality guidelines as set out by relevant professional bodies in the process of exchange of information with professionals/organisations involved in my child's care. I understand that non-identifiable information may be used for reporting and research purposes as required for the implementation of best practice and for dissemination of program data.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclaimer For Photography And Publicity Purposes**

This is to certify, that I (parent/guardian's name), \_\_\_\_\_, authorise the employees of Deaf Connect to take photographs and/or make video/audio recordings of my child/dependent, (name) \_\_\_\_\_, as deemed appropriate for the provision of professional services. I acknowledge that the photographs/recordings are taken with my knowledge and consent and that no remuneration will be provided. I understand that:

1. All recordings/photographs will be used for professional services only
2. All recordings/photographs will be kept in a secure place and
3. Only employees of Deaf Connect and their students, if relevant, will have access to the recordings/photographs.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 3 – SCHOOL DETAILS**

School Name			
School Address			
School Email			
Phone Number			
Key School Contact		Email	
Class Teacher		Email	
Advisory Visiting Teacher (Deaf and hard of hearing)		Email	

**SCHOOL CONSENT**

**Principals (or delegate), your consent is required by ticking the box beside the statements below. SDSS services cannot be provided until all statements are agreed to:**

I understand that Hear for Kids in School (Deaf Connect) will provide services at our school and will work in collaboration with the student's educational team to provide advice and support for the development and implementation of the student's Personalised Learning Plan.

The relevant school policies and procedures, including child safety and mandatory reporting requirements, have been viewed and completed by Hear for Kids in School (Deaf Connect)

Consent has been received from a parent/guardian for the student listed in Part 2 of this request to receive a SDSS service from Hear for Kids in School (Deaf Connect) at our school.

I confirm that the student listed in Part 1 of this request meets the eligibility requirements to receive a SDSS service, as listed in the previous section, SDSS Services – Student Eligibility.

**\*Privacy Collection Notice:** All approved SDSS organisations have a current service agreement with the Department of Education, which requires them to adhere to strict Disclosure of Confidential Information and Protection of Personal Information clauses when delivering a service.

The personal information gathered by Hear for Kids in School (Deaf Connect) for this request is for the purpose of delivering services to improve access to and participation in curriculum and educational outcomes, and will not be used for any other purpose or given to any other party unless you have consented or we are authorised by law to do so.

Principal	
Signature	
Date	

# Specialist Disability Support in Schools (SDSS) Program

## Fact Sheet for Schools

### Purpose of the SDSS Program

The Department of Education provides funding to approved organisations under the SDSS Program to support schools by delivering services to improve access to, and participation in, curriculum and the educational outcomes for eligible school-aged students with disability through:

- a) identification of barriers to access, participation and achievement; and
- b) provision of supports to enhance student attendance, participation and achievement in schooling.

Services provided by organisations under the SDSS Program are complementary services to those offered by the education sectors and are not intended to be a duplication of those services available in schools.

While SDSS organisations may approach a school to offer a service, SDSS Program services are only delivered at the written request of the school, based on the needs of the student to access and participate in the curriculum. The Principal, or delegate of the Principal, decides if assistance is required and requests the services of a SDSS organisation.

### Student Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive a SDSS service, a student must be enrolled in a Queensland school (state or non-state) and be identified in one of the following ways:

- Students who were recorded in the latest submission of the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) as receiving supplementary, substantial or extensive adjustments; **or**
- the school requires assistance to address a barrier to the student's physical access to the school environment; **or**

#### Students new to a school (including Prep students)

- School has evidence of a diagnosed disability and has confirmed by the end of Term 1 that the adjustments provided are consistent with the descriptors for either supplementary, substantial or extensive in the NCCD Guidelines (please refer to the NCCD Selecting the level of adjustment matrix):
  - Supplementary: Student receives adjustments supplementary to the strategies and resources already available for all students within the school for particular activities **at specific times throughout the week.**
  - Substantial: Student has substantial support needs and receive essential adjustments and require considerable assistance to the usual educational program **at most times, on most days.**
  - Extensive: Student has very high support needs and are provided with extensive targeted measures and sustained levels of intensive support **at all times.**

It is recognised that a small number of students with disability require support to access and participate in education, on the same basis as their peers without disability, as soon as they commence school.

For Prep students or new students to a school, where the student has a diagnosed disability and documented ongoing complex needs, schools can apply for SDSS program services to commence at the start of the school year if the student requires immediate support to access and participate in learning, and/or for their safe attendance at school.

## Types of SDSS Service Provision

SDSS organisations are funded under service agreements with the Department of Education for three types of funding categories – School Support Services, Resource Centre Services and Specialised Equipment.

<b>School Support Services</b>	Funding for the provision of a range of professional services and consultation in schools for eligible students with disability. Services may include support services from educators, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, orientation and mobility specialists, and psychologists.
<b>Resource Centre Services</b>	Funding to provide equipment, materials and resources to schools for the support of eligible students.
<b>Specialised Equipment</b>	<p>Funding for specialised equipment is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To improve the equipment loan pools of organisations providing support services to students with disability to enhance access and participation in school;</li> <li>2) For equipment that is complementary to the equipment that is available from the regionalised loan service;</li> <li>3) For trial purposes at school; and/or</li> <li>4) For short term equipment loans up to six months.</li> </ol> <p>Note: This funding may not be used for equipment for individuals or minor equipment and materials.</p>

## Student Privacy and Confidentiality

All SDSS organisations have a legally binding service agreement with the Department of Education, which requires the organisations to adhere to strict Disclosure of Confidential Information and Protection of Personal Information requirements when delivering a service. SDSS organisations must not disclose Personal Information without the Department of Education's prior written consent.

The collection of some student information is required on the SDSS School Request for Support Form, which is provided to schools by the relevant SDSS organisation. The request forms ask for certain student details and the school's confirmation of eligibility because there are student eligibility requirements that must be met to receive a service under this program.

SDSS funding is government funding, administered by the Department of Education, to SDSS organisations to deliver specialist education services. Therefore, confirmation of eligibility is required from the school to ensure the funds are being used appropriately to deliver supports to schools and students.

Under the terms of their service agreement with the Department of Education, SDSS organisations are required to report data and outcomes annually to the Department regarding where and how they have delivered services to schools. The organisations, must be able to demonstrate they are

using the grant funding correctly and compliance requirements are being met. Any personal data collected by SDSS organisations must be retained within Australia to ensure that the data is protected under Australian privacy laws.

It is also common practice for SDSS organisations to conduct classroom observations, so they can observe the learning needs of the students and provide advice to schools regarding how strategies, adjustments and supports can work within the dynamics of the classroom.

## SDSS Organisations

The list of SDSS Program funded organisations provides details of the SDSS organisations and an overview of their services. The list can be located at:

<https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/budgets-funding-grants/grants/other-organisations/sdss/for-schools>.

Many of the supporting services are state-wide services, which means that all schools, including those in rural and remote locations, have the opportunity to access services from funded organisations to engage a specialist education support service.

## How to request support from a SDSS organisation

Prior to requesting a SDSS service, schools should consider the needs of students in conjunction with any services already available to the school, such as school-based therapies. Should it be established that a complementary service is needed to improve the student's access to, and participation in, the curriculum, then a SDSS service can be requested.

Schools should make direct contact with a SDSS organisation to discuss service provision at their respective school. The Principal of the school, or Principal's delegate, decides if assistance is required and requests the service from a SDSS organisation by completing and signing a School Request for Support Form, which is obtained directly from the SDSS service provider.

## Difference between SDSS and NDIS

The SDSS program and the NDIS have two distinct purposes.

The SDSS program supports schools to enhance the learning outcomes for eligible students who require significant educational adjustments. The SDSS organisations are funded by the Department of Education and their services are engaged by schools.

NDIS services are focused on supporting people with disability in their daily lives and do not include supports within schools to access the curriculum. NDIS funding is allocated to parents of students with disability under a NDIS Participant Plan, with parents directly engaging a provider.

## For further information regarding the SDSS Program, please visit:

<https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/budgets-funding-grants/grants/other-organisations/sdss>

## SDSS program contacts

Email: [sdss@qed.qld.gov.au](mailto:sdss@qed.qld.gov.au)

Telephone: (07) 3513 6743