

Learning

Staff have a clear understanding of disability and the impact of student health on learning.

Our staff provide a diverse, appropriate and stimulating curriculum which enhances creativity and personal growth. We value individuality and tailor our curriculum to meet the unique needs of every student.

Teachers utilize an adapted Australian Curriculum. This provides clear direction for mapping student progress to inform teaching at each student's instructional level.

All students are encouraged to use technology to enhance learning and communication.

An additional focus on life skills and improved social outcomes enable students to attain a QCIA at completion.



Environment

Learning occurs within a safe, supportive, environment. Staff guide students through learning experiences in a physical environment which meets the needs of the school and its community.

Every part of the school is creatively used as a learning area, from classrooms, to gardens to play areas and all specialist classes.

Explicit teaching of behaviour and social skills encourages awareness in students of community expectations following the completion of schooling.

To extend student learning beyond the classroom, teachers are increasing the number of activities into the community. Students then embrace many environments as learning environments encouraging the concept of 'learning for life'.

Staff

The staff at Southport Special School work together in highly effective teams. All staff members are highly dedicated professionals, who make significant contributions to student learning outcomes.

Leadership is shared widely across the school with opportunities for staff to share their knowledge and ideas.

Staff lead by example and treat others with care, compassion and respect. Staff show consideration for each other and enjoy a friendly collegial environment.

Teachers lead a professional culture in which teacher aides are valued and skilled. Staff are provided with regular professional development, aligned to the school improvement agenda, to help them to operate as highly effective educators. They are also supported to achieve the goals identified within their performance development plan.

Staff caring for the well-being of others is a major focus.

School Vision

We provide an individualised curriculum, with quality programs that develop in our students the knowledge, skills, attitudes and readiness to engage as valued members of the broader community.

Community

Students participate in the wider community through Work Experience, the Sampling Program and various class activities in order to optimise their independence and learn acceptable skills and attitudes in preparation for adulthood.

The last year of schooling is particularly focussed on transition from school to the community and life after school.

Communication between parents/carers and teachers supports the reinforcement of agreed routines and processes. These are supported through partnerships with outside agencies where common understandings are agreed so as to enhance student individual needs.

The local community is highly supportive of the school and its programs and continues to offer supported work placement and financial funding for programs.