

## Our Environment Offers

- Specialist trained educators
- Caring and motivated staff
- Adherence to the West Australian Curriculum
- Independence programs
- Social & emotional learning
- Music therapist/dance programs
- School speech therapist to guide staff
- Individual education planning with regular reviews
- Structured play programs for both outside and inside play
- A safe, secure and stimulating learning environment
- Well-resourced play areas
- Transition to high school



## Vision Statement

To provide an alternative learning environment for students with special needs and to promote and develop abilities, independence and educational, physical and social skills and knowledge in preparation for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of the future.



MOUNT HAWTHORN  
Education Support Centre  
*Reaching for independence*



Principal

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## Alternative Schooling for Year PP - 6 Primary Students with an Intellectual Disability or Severe Autism

We cater for students who have a recognised diagnosis of intellectual disability (ID) or severe autism and who prefer to have a more enclosed environment with smaller classes, individualised work and more intensive help than in mainstream schools.



# About the Education Support Centre

While many students with intellectual disabilities are well catered for nowadays in mainstream classes, there are always some who would be happier and find learning easier in a smaller and more supportive environment. We are here to provide that environment, should parents choose it. To access our services, students must be diagnosed as having an intellectual disability and low adaptive behaviour or severe autism and low adaptive behaviour.

We provide a full curriculum, with an emphasis on independence, communication and life skills, numeracy and literacy and cover the Western Australian Curriculum.

We use the principles of applied behaviour analysis (ABA) with intensive one-on-one training for younger students, depending on need. Older students spend more time focussing on their areas of strength in group work, learning socialising and life skills and less time on intensive learning programs.



## Reaching for Independence

Our overarching goal is to maximise independence for each student.

Students work from their own Individual Education Plan (IEP) which is developed in meetings between teachers, parents/carers and specialists.

Students work sometimes one-on-one with an education assistant or teacher and sometimes in groups.

Staff are rotated so that all students work regularly with a number of staff.

Student learning is maximised through a variety of delivery methods - applied behaviour analysis, discrete trials, direct instruction and collaborative learning. Students are also provided with a variety of learning environments, some one on one with an adult, small group sessions and whole class sessions. Students have regular excursions including local shopping and on public transport for travel training and to generalise skills learned in class.

## Interaction with Mount Hawthorn Primary School

Most of our students are integrated into some mainstream classes such as art, sport, music and dance and they also play amongst mainstream students at recess and lunch. Our students often attend assemblies, sports days, special events and incursions at the Primary School. We also have some mainstream students visiting, mentoring and working with our students.

## Parent Involvement

We have a joint P&C and Schools Board with the Primary School; parents are able to join if they are interested. Meetings for each are around once per term.

