



Respect and  
Responsibility,  
Excellence and  
Equity, Care and  
Commitment.



Albany Secondary High School  
Education Support Centre  
Excellence in specialists education

## Our purpose

We provide a safe, caring and supportive environment where children are empowered to achieve their social, emotional and academic potential.

We promote and maintain positive relationships within our school community the wider community.

Our inclusive environment provides opportunities for all children to develop independence for life and actively contribute to society.

We aim for excellence in all areas and to lead the way in Education Support.





## Welcome

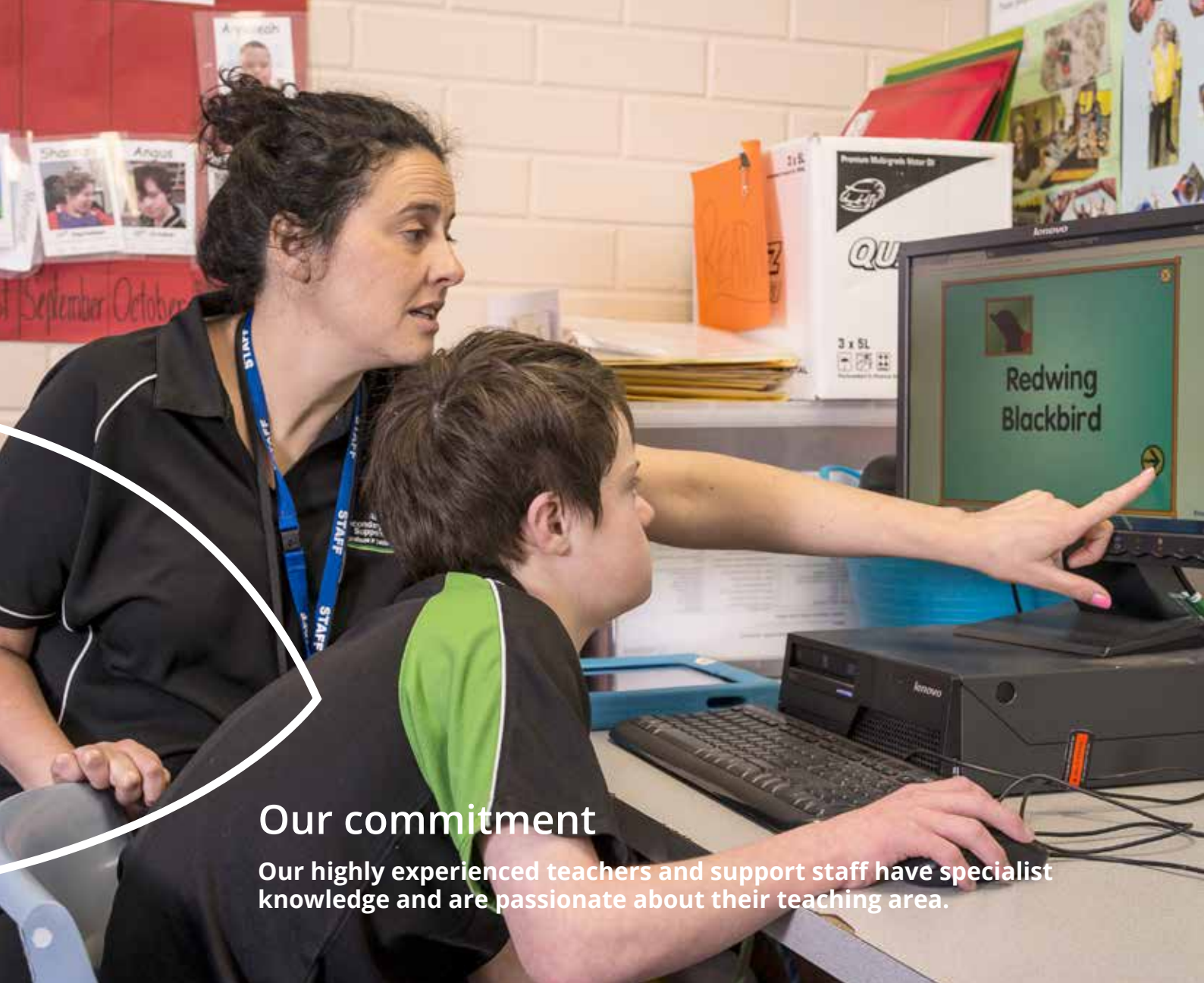
Your child will experience a safe, caring and supportive environment for their education close to home.

We provide a safe, caring and supportive environment where children are empowered to achieve their social, emotional and academic potential.

‘Respect and responsibility, excellence and equity, care and commitment’ means your child is well prepared to fulfil their aspirations. It is more than a motto – it is the way we teach and encourage all children.

We promote and maintain positive relationships within our school community and the wider community. Our inclusive environment provides opportunities for your child to develop independence for life and actively contribute to society.

By providing excellence in all areas of education support, we value and care for your child, and equip them for life after school.



## Our commitment

**Our highly experienced teachers and support staff have specialist knowledge and are passionate about their teaching area.**

We cater for children with a mild to moderate intellectual disability from Years 7 to 13. Children may also attend through a local placement process, if this is deemed to be the best placement for your child, despite not meeting regular placement criteria.

All of our students are at educational risk with all requiring substantial or extensive adjustments to the teaching and learning program as well as the learning environment. Some students may have more severe physical or intellectual disabilities and a significant number of students have been diagnosed with autism. As the only secondary education support centre in the region we attract children from as far afield as Kojonup and Jerramungup with many students travelling by bus from Denmark and Mount Barker.

We are an Independent Public school and enjoy greater flexibilities to enable us to be more proactive and responsive to each child's needs. We have increased time for both the school chaplain and school psychologist and contract therapists as required. We maintain a 1:1 iPad to student ratio, a school van and a school bus to support student community access and participation. In addition, we have a substantial building program to upgrade student physical facilities.

The targeted use of specialist staff and our commitment to continuous improvement enables us to provide the best possible outcomes for all students.

We are a Positive Behaviour School and teach our students the skills they need to be safe, responsible, respectful, positive and caring. We recognise and reward effort and achievement and promote positive relationships for all members of our school community. Every student has an Individual Education Plan tailored to their specific individual needs.

We begin our individual planning by speaking with families and previous schools before enrolling children and continue this throughout their schooling.

The Individual Pathway Plans promotes each child's achievement and prepares them for the transition to life after school. We closely monitor each child's progress and encourage their learning.

We focus on each child's independence and ability to actively engage with and contribute to their community. Being an ASDAN school enables us to deliver an accredited program that makes learning relevant and transferable; develops skills for learning, skills for employment and skills for life and celebrates the diversity of our students. We enhance the learning experience with programs such as Community Work Crew, Workplace Learning and Bush Rangers, assisting our students in developing their skills for independence, gaining recognition for their achievements and preparing for the world beyond school.

Our partnerships with TAFE and local businesses complement our vocational programs enabling students to complete certificate qualifications.

We believe communication represents an essential and very important human need and improving communication skills is a focus for all students. Our multi modal approach to communication, incorporates alternative augmentative communication systems such as Proloquo2go and PECS (Picture Exchange Communication Systems) as well as PODDS (Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display), to assist students with communication challenges. One particularly distinctive feature is our HALO (or Rapid Prompting Method) program designed to support learning needs of students with autism and communication challenges. Our holistic approach to high needs students also incorporates the TEACCH program.



We recognise and reward effort and achievement and promote positive relationships for all members of our school community.



## Our learning environment

Our school caters for children with a mild to moderate intellectual disability for secondary years 7 to 13. Children may also attend through a local placement process, if this is the best placement for your child, despite not meeting regular placement criteria. All of our students are at educational risk and all need substantial or extensive adjustments to the teaching and learning program and learning environment. Some students may have more severe physical or intellectual disabilities and a significant number of students have been diagnosed with autism.

As an Independent Public school enjoying greater flexibilities enables us to be more proactive and responsive to each child's needs. The targeted use of specialist staff and our commitment to continuous improvement enables us to be confident in provide the best possible outcomes for your child.

We are a Positive Behaviour School and teach our students the skills they need to be safe, responsible, respectful, positive and caring. We recognise and reward effort and achievement and promote positive relationships for all members of our school community.

Every student at ADESC has an Individual Education Plan which is tailored to their specific individual needs. The Individual Pathway Plans helps student achievement and prepares your child for the transition to life after school.

An important focus at ADESC is increasing student independence and ability to actively engage and contribute to community. As an ASDAN school we deliver an accredited program that makes learning relevant and transferable; develops skills for learning, skills for employment and skills for life.

We enhance your child's learning experience with programs such as Community Work Crew, Workplace Learning and Bush Rangers, all programs assist in developing skills for independence, gaining recognition, achievements and preparing for the future. Our partnerships with TAFE and local businesses complement our vocational programs enabling your child to complete certificate qualifications.





## Holistic learning and your child

We believe that a specialist teaching and the learning environment is needed for successful students.

We believe communication represents an essential and very important human need and improving communication skills is a focus for all students.

We have a multi-modal approach to communication, incorporating alternative augmentative communication systems such as Proloquo2go and PECS (Picture Exchange Communication Systems) as well as PODDS (Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display), to assist students with communication challenges.

Our HALO (or Rapid Prompting Method) is specially designed to support the learning needs of students with autism and communication challenges.

Our all round approach to these high needs children also incorporates the TEACCH program.



## Nurturing excellence

Our commitment to excellence provides your child with outstanding learning, social and emotional development.

### PBS

We are committed to providing a safe, caring and supportive environment where students are empowered to achieve their social, emotional and academic potential; promoting positive relationships beyond school. Our specialist staff are trained in low key handling responses used in everyday learning.

Our experienced staff teach and practise 'Behaviour Expectation' in formal and informal settings.

## Visible learning

We focus on making learning visible to students. Visible learning is all about students taking ownership for their learning. It is about teachers becoming evaluators of their own teaching and seeing learning through the eyes of the students.

Our goal is to develop students who can:

- Talk about what they are learning
- Explain their next steps
- Set learning goals
- See mistakes as opportunities for learning
- Know what to do when they are stuck
- Seek feedback

We are constantly looking to further developing our understandings of a good learner and strengthening our use of feedback. We carry out observations across the school, with a particular focus on feedback, learning intentions and success criteria.

**" When thinking becomes visible – it is clear to students that school is not about memorizing facts but about exploring ideas."**

Rosamaria Diaz-Velez



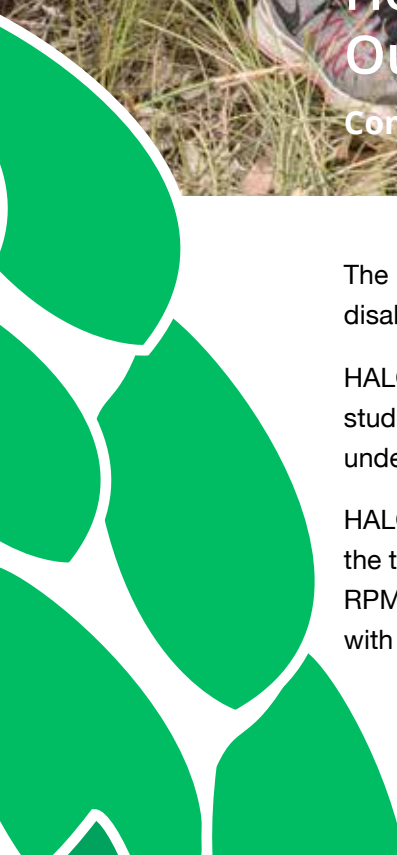
## Helping Autism through Learning and Outreach (HALO)

Communication is the beginning and everything else follows.

The HALO program commenced in 2014 for selected students with autism or other disabilities and continues to help many children.

HALO is based on Soma Æ Mukhopadhyay's Rapid Prompting Method. It identifies students' learning styles and their learning channels in order to tap into their way of understanding knowledge and gives insight into their academic abilities.

HALO's success comes with practise and with utilising the steps of communication where the teachers use letter-boards, stencils, paper choices or whatever works for each student. RPM relies on minimal equipment and is conducted on a one to one basis for each student with a teacher trained in the HALO approach.



## Vocational Education Training (VET)

As a part of students' Individual Education Plans and Individual Pathway Plans, they have opportunities to participate in specialised courses at South Regional TAFE College. This includes VET in Schools (VETis) profile hours at TAFE which may assist transition to employment.

Courses include Certificate I and Certificate I Introductory in General Education for Adults. VETis courses include certificates in Horticulture, Hairdressing, Retail, Conservation and Land Management, Clothing Production, Kitchen Operations and Health Support Services.

Skills learned through TAFE courses allow students to see the relevance of their learning and provide them with opportunities to demonstrate their skills in work placement.

These courses teach students about possible employment options, and to learn new skills supporting their transition out of school.

## Workplace learning

We offer an inclusive Workplace Learning program tailored to meet and expand each student's educational, social and emotional abilities and needs. Eligible students are invited to take part in Workplace Learning from Year 10 until they leave school.

Students select from a wide range of vocations through our partnerships within the community to provide a broader range of Workplace Learning opportunities for all students. The program has a broad range of learning experiences for students. Staff resources are allocated to supervise and support students to travel to and from the workplace, and provide additional support and supervision while learning new skills on the job.

When the time comes to leave school, students are more work ready and in possession of many skills to confidently take into their future.





Albany Secondary  
Education Support  
Centre

65 Anson Road Albany Western Australia 6330

T: 08 9841 4900