



Transition to Adult Life - Self Auditing Tool for Schools

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In Western Australia there have been many changes to how students transition from school to adult life in the last few years. These changes have come about due to the introduction of NDIS.

The result of these changes created confusion for both schools and families, as previously established programs and procedures were no longer in place.

The Students with Disability Team saw a need for new guidelines to be created for schools so that they could ensure students developed the skills necessary for life after school. A major consideration in establishing these guidelines was to ensure that a team was established to support the student to transition to adult life. This team would include the student, family, school, therapists and agencies.

After establishing a work party, meetings were arranged with relative agencies such as government agencies, (Disability Services Commission, NDIS and Centrelink), and service providers to ensure the most up to date information was gathered.

A position statement was written by the work party. Eight principles were identified as necessary to ensure students left catholic schools in WA with an established pathway to adult life. Using these eight principles a continuum was written for each, from Developing, Proficient, Exemplary to Lead. It is envisaged that schools would identify where they are on this continuum and work towards improving their programs and procedures to ensure the best outcome for their students. The principles and continuum give schools a framework to ensure they use accredited curriculum, (SCASA courses of study and Endorsed Units such as ASDAN), students are provided with work experience opportunities and relationships with families are strengthened as well as encouraging families to make connections with appropriate agencies.

In this presentation the above process will be outlined, the completed Position Statement, which includes the eight principles as well as the continuum will be presented to the audience.