



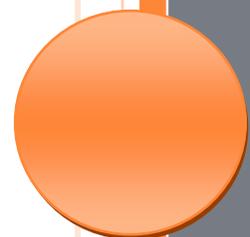
Supporting people experiencing
learning differences

SPELD QLD PROSPECTUS

Invest in our children's intellectual future

Speld Qld assists over 1000 students throughout Queensland to reach their potential in the skills of reading and writing. To continue to reach all Queenslanders, we need financial or in-kind assistance.

Speld Qld Inc
May 2015



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Our Story

We all attend school to learn the three R's and we assume children in Queensland will be able to read, write, and add by the time they graduate. You may be taken aback to learn that around 6.5 per cent of Grade 3 children in Queensland do not reach the national minimum standard for reading and over 5 per cent do not reach the minimum standard in numeracy (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority [ACARA], 2014).

Literacy and numeracy rates for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 3 students are even lower, with over 19.5 per cent failing to reach the minimum benchmarks for reading and numeracy (ACARA, 2014) and between 40 and 50 per cent achieving below minimum standard if located in very remote locations (Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs, 2007). By the time Indigenous children are in late primary school this gap has widened to about 2 years and continues to widen throughout high school (Creative Spirits, retrieved 14 May, 2015).

Queensland has the second largest Indigenous student population in Australia with almost 50,000 enrolled Indigenous students and around 30 Indigenous schools, many located in bush communities (Hughes & Hughes, 2012). According to Mellor and Corrigan (2004), the development of literacy and numeracy skills is important for the life opportunities for Indigenous children and provides them with the necessary skills to interact within mainstream society and avail themselves of the broadest range of possibilities.

Many of these students have average or above average IQ yet may have learning differences such as dyslexia or dyscalculia. Students with dyslexia have difficulties recognising words and struggle to read and spell. Students with dyscalculia have difficulty in acquiring maths concepts and struggle to grasp number facts and procedures. These students need research based techniques and resources to assist them to reach their full potential.

*We make a real difference
to the school lives of
students struggling with
learning differences...*

Speld Qld has evidence based research to back up our story. We make a real difference to the school lives of students struggling with learning differences by offering assessments, specialist teachers, resources, an advisory line, and workshops. Early intervention is crucial to avoid future anxiety, low self esteem and school reluctance. We are asking for your support to raise awareness and provide resources to help Queensland students in urban, rural, and remote Queensland. Please consider investing in our children's intellectual future.

Benefits of sponsorship

Speld Qld assisted over 1000 students throughout Queensland in 2014 in addition to supporting teachers, principals, and guidance officers. We have a database of specialist teachers throughout Queensland and a panel of highly qualified academic assessors and psychologists.

Platinum

Cost: \$20,000 and above per year

Your sponsorship will provide flights and accommodation for two specialist teachers to fly to a remote Queensland community to provide a full day workshop on learning difficulties and practical teaching strategies. Funds will enable Speld to provide copies of the AUSPELD Understanding Learning Difficulties guide to all workshop participants in addition to covering any venue costs.

Your donation will also enable Speld to invest in the latest literacy and numeracy resources for our library. These resources are often quite expensive and allow all our members to access the best programs free-of-charge.

Benefits:

- Logo appears on Speld Qld website.
- Logo appears in printed newsletter.
- Logo appears on all workshop promotion.
- Naming rights at the Speld annual cocktail party.

Gold

Cost: \$10,000 - \$20,000 per year

Your sponsorship will purchase between 150 – 300 AUSPELD Understanding Learning Difficulties guides to provide to principals, teachers, psychologists and parents. This handbook provides an overview of learning difficulties and lists practical resources and strategies that can be used in the classroom. This invaluable resource is particularly beneficial to those in rural and remote regions of Queensland.

Benefits:

- Logo will be printed on guides and cover mailing costs.

Silver

Cost: \$2,000 - \$10,000 per year

Speld Qld produces a comprehensive online guide to the latest assistive technology, from apps to text prediction and note taking software. Apps are a valuable multisensory method for students to learn and revise academic work. Some students find the physical skills involved in handwriting immensely difficult or have issues with expressing themselves in a written form. Utilising a keyboard can greatly benefit these students and enable them to express themselves in a timely way.

By sponsoring our Speld Qld “*It’s appening guide*”, you will be helping students access the best in research based assistive technology. Your donation will cover our advisor’s time in addition to assistive technology workshops and printed copies

Benefits:

- Logo on Speld Qld “*It’s appening guide*”.
- Logo at assistive technology workshops.

In-kind Materials

Like any non-profit organisation, Speld Qld incurs fixed and variable operating costs. If you are able to assist in donating in-kind materials, we are keen to talk! Our needs range from photocopying paper through to flights and accommodation to reach our remote students and teachers. Alternatively we have a list of expenses that monetary donations can fund. Depending on the size of donation, you are entitled to the benefits of the relevant sponsorship package of Platinum, Gold, or Silver.

References

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