



## Service Overview

# Distance Education



AQ School's Distance Education is designed to give eligible students the opportunity to access personalised learning from home with daily supports from an interdisciplinary team. Our goal is to support autistic students in accessing the Australian Curriculum to their fullest potential.

### Eligibility

Enrolment is available for students meeting **Student With Disability** (SWD) eligibility criteria and are unable to attend one of our AQ School campus across the state. Whilst we also accept expressions of interest from metro areas, regional and remote students are given priority.

### Australian Curriculum

All students engage in the **Australian Curriculum Learning Areas** of English, Mathematics, and Health and Physical Education. Additional areas—such as Science, The Arts, and Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)—are delivered through personalised programs and interactive digital workbooks tailored to each student's interests, engagement, and learning needs.

Curriculum content, instruction, and learning resources are developed by our interdisciplinary team and accessed via online platforms by both the student and their home supervisor. Every student has a **Personalised Learning Plan** (PLP), created in collaboration with the student, their family, and the AQ School team. The PLP outlines key strategies, adjustments, and individualised learning goals to support meaningful and effective learning for every student.

Attendance is measured by the student's engagement with their educational activities and the regular submission of work at their own independent and individual level.

### Benefits of Distance Education:

- Learn remotely without the need to attend a physical campus, helping to **reduce challenges** often faced in mainstream school settings.
- Enjoy a **flexible education schedule** that can be tailored to suit family routines.
- Participate in live lessons with **real-time** feedback from the interdisciplinary team and opportunities to **connect** with classmates in safe, structured online spaces.
- Students can access on-demand learning materials, **practice skills at their own pace**, and showcase progress and achievements through personalised online portfolios.
- Students can continue to receive personal therapy support, scheduled around learning needs.



The delivery model of AQ School's Distance Education works well for students who can demonstrate an ability to:

- Engage in an online platform.
- Navigate a learning device (either laptop or computer).
- Focus on a learning task for a period of time.

### Home Supervisor

The home supervisor—typically someone who knows the student well—plays a vital role in providing consistent support. They ensure the student can access online learning, collaborate with the interdisciplinary team to follow the student's PLP, and make sure tasks and data are submitted on time to support effective teaching and learning.

#### The home supervisor is expected to:

- Establish a positive and supportive learning space at home.
- Stay in regular contact with the interdisciplinary team through meetings (Microsoft Teams) and emails.
- Review learning materials ahead of time.
- Support and supervise the student's learning activities.
- Share regular feedback with the team and work together to identify and solve any learning challenges.

### A Typical Distance Education Day:



#### Flexible Schedule:

To accommodate family routines and scheduled therapy/appointments.



#### Daily Check-ins:

Morning meetings, daily class check-ins, group and individual teaching sessions.



#### Individual Learning:

Scheduled learning time for student and home supervisor to focus on daily work, practice specific skills and develop areas of interest.



#### Break Times:

Scheduled time for eating, moving, outside play, and peer bonding.

### Key Considerations:

When evaluating suitability, consider these questions and potential challenges:

- **Learning Environment:** Can you set up a positive learning environment?
- **Resources/Equipment:** Have you considered what you may need?
- **Home Supervisor:** Who can commit to this and how much time can they dedicate?
- **Student Skills:** What skills does your child have that will help them succeed?
- **Schedule Adjustments:** What accommodations will you need to make?

Students will need a designated 'school' learning area within the home, a distraction-free desk or workspace, easy access to learning tools such as visual schedules and fidget tools, and an organised system for storing student materials and resources. Students will also need access to reliable technology to participate in learning activities.

### Technology Requirements

- A laptop or computer the student can use independently.
- Headset (with microphone) for online communication.
- Strong, reliable internet connection.
- Occasional printer access (for learning materials).



Scan QR code to check Microsoft 365 connectivity requirements.



Scan QR code to view other resources, services and supports offered by Autism Queensland.

**Autism Queensland is here to help—get in touch to learn more:**



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