Planning Life After School - Together!

The Post-School Transition Planning Community of Practice

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The Problem

For many young people with disability, the end of school is not a graduation but a cliff-edge. Support that felt structured inside school can disappear overnight, leaving young people and families to navigate a fragmented maze of education, disability, health, employment and community systems that rarely talk to one another. Our Community of Practice began because families reached out to us, stressed and unsure what came next, asking one question no one could answer: what now?

Student Voices

"I found it hard to ask for help"

"It would have been good to have more of a routine planned like how it was at school so I knew what i was doing each day."

"Suddenly there is no direction or guidance and everything is completely up to you."

What is a Community of Practice?

- A group of people who choose to come together
- We share and learn from each other
- Everyone is different - together we can do more
- We agree what matters and work as a team

Our Shared Intent

We bring together lived experience and professional expertise across systems to build better post-school transition practice now and to contribute to a National Best Practice Framework for Post-School Transition Planning for young adults with disability, spanning every life domain that shapes their future.

Activities

- Regular meetings
- Case-based discussion
- Collaborative problem-solving
- Developing shared language, principles and tools
- Reflecting on what works, what doesn't, and why

Our Domains

- Learning & Lifelong Education
- Identity, Agency & Self-Determination
- Independent Living & Daily Life
- Health & Wellbeing
- Employment & Economic Participation
- Community, Belonging and Relationships

A whole-of-life perspective through the lens of:

- Lived experience – young people with disability and their families/carers/siblings
- Service Systems & Navigation
- Research, Evidence & Evaluation

What Success Looks Like

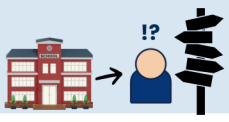
- Depth of learning and trust across systems
- Evidence of changed practice
- Better experiences for young people & families
- CoP adapts without losing purpose

Where are we at?

- We have held 3 meetings
- Currently planning a lived-experience workshop
- National Transition Resource Mapping Project commissioned

Easy Read Summary

When school finishes, life changes a lot.



Young people with disability and their families can feel lost. They might not know what to do next.



We started a group to help. It is called a Community of Practice.



In the group we all learn from each other.



We want life after school to be better for everyone.



You can join us. Scan the QR code to find out more.



Join us

Help us solve the problem.

People with lived experience, educators, researchers, service providers and advocates - all are welcome.

STaR (Specialist Teaching and Research) and St Edmund's College. Our work is informed by established transition and wellbeing frameworks. Enabling Abilities Conference, Western Sydney University, 2026.