

Developmental Education (DE)

Developmental Educators can provide counselling, education, advocacy and support to help you participate in the community and gain greater independence.



The typical skills and programs that Developmental Educators work on can include:

- Transport
- Cooking programs
- Personal hygiene & self care
- ↳ Dressing, feeding, etc.
- Independent living
- ↳ House cleaning, laundry, shopping, etc.

Developmental Educators work with individuals and those around them to help them, to live as independently as possible and to be an active member of their community. They do this through working closely not only with the individual, but also through gathering information from their support network.

Both direct therapy and observations will be completed. Observations of the individual engaging in different tasks and interactions across their natural environments are required to develop their goals and training necessary.

Programs are generally structured around six main areas of development, but also consider the strengths and preferences of the individual.

The six areas are:

- 1. Prompting**
 - ↳ Prompting the individual to participate in the activity – prompts can be verbal, gestural, modelling (i.e. showing the action or task), video footage or physical
- 2. Fading**
 - ↳ Reducing the frequency of prompting over time
- 3. Reinforcement**
 - ↳ Provide reinforcement to encourage engaging in the task and continuing to improve the skill
- 4. Chaining**
 - ↳ Linking the specific task to the strengths of the individual. This area includes breaking the task down into smaller, achievable segments
- 5. Schedules**
 - ↳ This includes the development and implementation of functional schedules
- 6. Rules**
 - ↳ Development and implementation of basic rules to assist in facilitating the development of the task or skills

Developmental Education (DE)

Who can access Developmental Education?

Our Developmental Educator's work with people of all ages: individuals and their families.

What does Developmental Education at Hessel Group look like?

Our Team of Developmental Educators role includes social inclusion, interacting with the community and maximising quality of life through skills development. They provide counselling, education, advocacy and support.

Through specialised, professional support, the Developmental Education team can help you:

- Learn new skills
- Become more independent
- Increase community participation
- Achieve your full potential

They can provide practical support at any stage of life, whether you would like to:

- Learn skills to get a job or advance in your current job
- Move out of the family home
- Get involved in your community
- Do your own shopping
- Make new friends

Before beginning therapy or developing any programs or strategies, our Developmental Educators will complete the relevant assessments with the individual or those around them. These results provide us with a clearer picture of the individual's strengths and where further work and development is needed and allow us to begin developing plans and strategies that best meet the individual's unique needs.

How long are session?

Therapy sessions are typically 1 to 3 hours in duration. They can occur at one of our clinics, the client's home, educational/vocational facility or in the community. Sessions can occur as frequently as required, but in most cases, this is either weekly sessions or fortnightly sessions.

