

## Devices in Classes

Each child spends dedicated time with the AAC teacher, this provides additional opportunity for explicit teaching. The class teachers utilise the student's communication systems throughout the daily class program..

Teachers liaise with parents and therapists to ensure all program goals are catered for.



The student's therapists are able to work within the classroom at appointed times as determined in collaboration with the Centre Admin. The number and frequency of sessions each term is decided based on demand and individual need. These programs are in addition to the Centre's ongoing learning and teaching program .

All Centre programs are highly structured delivered and supported by excellent specialist staff who work to meet the individual educational outcomes of each student.

### Enrolling in the Centre

Parents/carers and students are encouraged to visit the Centre by appointment with the principal. Enrolment is based on meeting the entry criteria of Autism, with GDD and/or intellectual disability ; High Support Needs. Eligibility is overseen by the Department's South Metropolitan Regional Office.

More information regarding the enrolment policy can be obtained either from the Learning Centre Principal or by phoning the Lead School Psychologist Disabilities on 9336 9599.

The Department of Education's service providers, the WA Institute for Deaf Education, the Vision Education Service, the School for Special Education Needs and its Autism Intervention Team also offer ongoing support to individual students and staff as requested. The Department of Transport provides a school bus service for those students living within the Centre's catchment area boundaries.

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**Please visit our website:**  
**[www.coolbelluplearningcentre.wa.edu.au](http://www.coolbelluplearningcentre.wa.edu.au)**



Coolbellup Learning Centre is a member of the Education Support South Network of schools.

[Educationssouthnetwork.com.au](http://Educationssouthnetwork.com.au)



## Alternative Augmentative Communications Across the Centre



# Coolbellup Learning Centre an Education Support School

Located 15 minutes from Fremantle and 5 minutes from the Freeway, Coolbellup Learning Centre has been providing specialist educational programs for students with disabilities and high support needs for over 30 years. The Centre, shares a site with the Coolbellup Community School and provides programs of excellence for students from Kindergarten to year six.

The Centre is staffed with specialist teachers and education assistants and is supported by the services of speech, physio and occupational therapists. The Centre operates



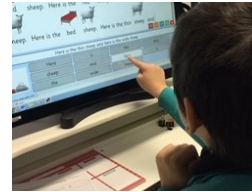
across four classrooms and is fully accessible. We share facilities with the local primary school inclusive of playgrounds, canteen, art rooms, food technology room, library and staff amenities. Both schools share a P&C and a School Council. There are many opportunities for students with special needs to integrate and socialise with their peers in a supportive learning and play environment.



**The Centre has high standards and a community reputation for excellence.**

## Alternative Augmentative Communications K-6

The Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) project was implemented in 2017 in response to the increasing number of students with complex communication needs



enrolled at the Centre. Students use a combination of Speech Generating Devices (SGD), Key Word Signed communication, or a symbol supported communication system to enhance their access to the curriculum and communication opportunities. The need to provide staff with additional training and skills in the use of AAC in the classroom, in order to improve student outcomes was identified as an area of need and formed the basis of this project.

The project has now grown into a more formal program which runs across all classes. Our specialist AAC teacher works with staff, parents and therapists to ensure each child has a voice.

## Staffing

The AAC program is coordinated by a specialist teacher. Centre staff have undertaken a range of professional learning to further their skills. The specialist teacher also provides on the spot training as required.



This ensures program continuity across the classroom settings allowing skills taught to be generalised.

## Program and strategies

Communication alternatives are used to teach explicitly to develop each student's independence and ability to self manage and participate in a wide range of communication contexts. Key focus areas include receptive and expressive communication across all learning areas. Visual and sign support is also used throughout the program as required.

Technology including personal devices, iPads and electronic whiteboards are used widely across the Centre as well as within the AAC Program.

Computer based learning programs and a range of additional assistive technologies assist student learning and participation.



## Assessment

Discrete Trial Training is used across the Centre. Goals are set as measurable targets and students are supported to success. A monitor and review process takes place each term ensuring goals are always relevant.

## Establishing Goals

Each student's goals are written collaboratively with class teachers, AAC Specialist teacher, parents, therapists and other stakeholders as required. These goals form the child's Individual Education Plan (IEP). The IEP is reviewed each semester. The Centre staff also collaborate with parents making an NDIS Plan.