Planning for children with disability in kindergarten

Transcript of video

This video is available from http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/26403.html

Parents' expectations

Parent:

So when our boys were two we put them on a waiting list to see a private paediatrician, and when they were just under two and a half they were diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). I really wanted to make sure I provided the kindy and the teachers with as much information about the boys as possible before they started. So I spoke to all the staff that were going to be involved with my boys at kindy, I took down reports from the paediatrician, from the occupational therapist, the speech therapist. I really needed them to be able to understand my boys before they even met them in order for them to be able to include them properly.

Working with teachers

Kindergarten assistant: Community kindergarten I am an additional needs assistant and have been for many years, working at several different community kindergartens in Queensland. When I work in a team with the teacher, I am an extension of what she needs me to be in the room. I will give her feedback of what is happening with the child. We will set goals for that child, very small goals to begin with.

Strategies for communicating

Kindergarten assistant:

Community kindergarten

Some of the communication strategies we use are a daily communication book which goes home. Also the planning cards so the parents have a visual of what their child has done, as well as the slideshow on the whiteboard of an afternoon, and also their portfolios.

Strategies and advice

Teacher:

Community kindergarten

Special education teacher:

Early Childhood Development Program (ECDP) Sara, thank you for coming in today from the ECDP. I have a little boy in my kindy room that I would really like some advice on and some strategies to use.

I had a little boy who was signing and we could communicate, but then I initiated teaching the sign to the friends in his group so they could communicate with him as well.





Sharing goals

Parent:

The kindy teachers and I had already spoken about our goals for the boys for the year but we came down for a planning meeting with the ECDP teachers so that we could all make sure that we were working on the same goals and using the same methods and the same language to achieve those goals.