

PART 2 OF 4

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Every Child Gets a Good Education

Your school constantly improves its resources, teaching methods and activities to allow you to have a better learning experience.

Some of us may have special educational needs and require a bit more support from our teachers and friends. Although we may have different abilities and needs, Singapore believes that all children should be able to achieve their aspirations and realise their fullest potential. This is in line with Article 23 of the UNCRC, which states that every child who has any kind of disability should have the support needed to lead a full, independent life.

Let's learn more about some of the initiatives which make learning inclusive for all!



Bringing everyone closer together

Did you know that Singapore has an Enabling Masterplan, which aims to create a more inclusive society?

The first Enabling Masterplan was introduced in 2007. One of its recommendations was to provide more opportunities for students from special education (SPED) schools and mainstream schools to know one another and work together.

Satellite Partnerships established between SPED and mainstream schools give students from both schools opportunities to learn and play together.

One example is the partnership between AWWA School and Bowen Secondary School, where students from both schools take part in co-curricular activities, morning workouts, and go for recess together.

There have been three Masterplans thus far, with each Masterplan building on the progress we have made so that Singapore can become even more inclusive and accessible.

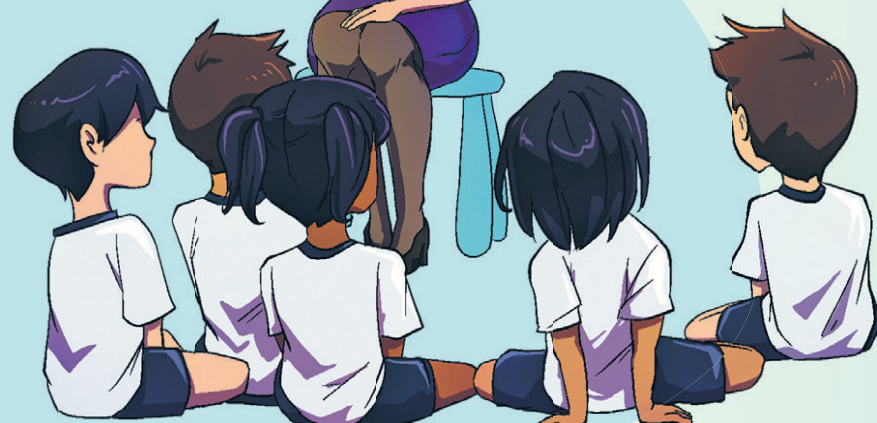
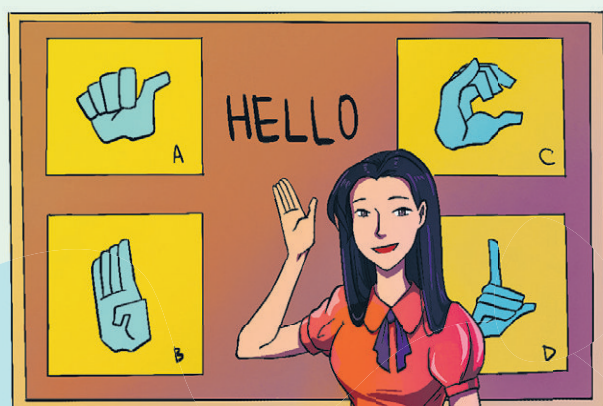
Providing better opportunities to learn for students with special educational needs

There are currently 19 SPED schools in Singapore, with seven more to come. One of these new schools will be run by Metta Welfare Association in Pasir Ris. This school will welcome 300 more students who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD). These

schools provide greater support, customised learning and smaller class sizes, which help our friends to learn better.

Teachers play a very important role to ensure our friends in SPED schools receive the best possible education. There are efforts to help these teachers learn the best ways to teach their students. For example, teachers can take up a diploma course in special education conducted by the National Institute of Education. There are also other courses conducted by different institutions to help teachers improve their teaching and better support our friends in SPED schools.

Our SPED schools have come a long way, and Singapore continuously strives to do more for our friends with special educational needs. These are examples of efforts that are aligned with Article 23 of the UNCRC, which states that children with disabilities should receive education in a way that helps them achieve their fullest possible development.



What is the UNCRC?

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) entered into force in 1990, and Singapore acceded to it in 1995.

It is an international agreement that protects children and their rights. It focuses on many different aspects of children's life, like education, health and development.

The UNCRC has 54 different articles*, together guiding the protection and development of children. There are 196 countries that are a part of this treaty, making it the most widely agreed-upon human rights treaty in the world!

*An article is a paragraph or a section of a piece of writing. When we say the UNCRC agreement has 54 articles, it means the agreement has 54 sections and each section talks about a different part on how to protect a child's rights.