

# Personal & Learning Supports

## Fact Sheet for Parents and Schools

### What supports do RTOs provide to students?

Registered Training Organisations provide a supportive, flexible adult learning environment in which students are provided with instruction, guidance and tools to assist them to succeed in their training.

A supportive teaching and learning environment is characterised by flexible and inclusive practices that ensures students are given the best opportunity to learn and to demonstrate their competencies.

Supports available to ensure success include:

- The RTO understands their student cohorts and their common learning and personal support needs that relate to training and plans to provide for these, considering diversity of backgrounds, learning styles and support needs.
- RTOs provide a broad range of teaching and learning methodologies, providing options to demonstrate competencies in a range of ways wherever possible.
- RTO planning to support students with disability, through conversations upfront about support needs and making reasonable adjustments to teaching and assessments. For school students this includes early planning with the school as part of the VETRO process.
- Trainers are available to provide support to students who may be struggling with their learning or feel they may have missed or misunderstood content or who may need to catch up on missed learning/classes or plan for an absence due to a medical or other known issue.
- The RTO has staff who can provide a supportive ear and referrals to relevant community services to assist students further with barriers that might be impacting on their training.
- RTOs also have access to further supports for students facing more complex barriers impacting on their ability to progress or successfully complete their training. RTOs can refer their students to these supports as needed (students can also self-refer).
  - In TAFE SA these additional supports are provided by Student Services. Follow this [link](#) for more information.
  - In non-government training providers, the supports are provided by Learner Support Services. See the [LSS fact sheet for RTOs](#).
  - Students can be referred to the [LSS fact sheet for students](#).
- For school students, RTOs will ensure timely communication with the school on progress of school students in VET including any concerns with missed work or classes or where there is any risk of non-completion.

VET is an adult learning environment, and it is up to students to make the most of the supports that are available and seek help when needed. The earlier a student seeks help for issues the more likely the supports can be put in place in time to remove barriers to success.

School students in VET should be encouraged by schools and parents/caregivers to seek help from their trainer or other RTO staff if they have missed classes, are falling behind in their work or need additional support for more complex life, learning or transition issues that may impact on their training.

