



Structured teaching

Quick reference guide

What is structured teaching?

Structured teaching is an educational strategy and comprehensive intervention that was designed to support students on the autism spectrum.

Structured teaching provides a systematic approach to learning and teaching through the:

- organisation of students' learning environment
- use of routine, structure, and visual clarity.

Structured teaching meets students' needs by:

- individualising materials and methods
- using individual interests or strengths.

Where is structured teaching used?

Structured teaching has mostly been used in special schools and autism-specific schools, and has been adapted for use in mainstream classroom settings.

What is the focus of structured teaching?

Structured teaching works with the strengths and interests of each student by:

- creating a structured and predictable environment
- clearly defining tasks and expectations
- adapting the classroom to cater for the patterns of behaviour of students on the spectrum.

What are the benefits of structured teaching?

For students on the spectrum, using the elements of visual schedules and work systems can lead to:

- on-task behaviour
- independent transitions
- task accuracy
- engagement
- reduced teacher prompting.

