

1 Hight Ave, Brighton
South Australia, 5048

Tel 08 8296 3614
Fax 08 8296 7180
E dl.0637.info@schools.sa.edu.au

Brighton Primary School Centre for Deaf Education

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Principal: Judith Allen

Coordinator: Melissa Phillips

The Brighton Primary Centre for Deaf Education (CDE) is incorporated within Brighton Primary School, enabling full participation in the mainstream setting. The CDE, as a fully integrated part of the mainstream school, offers a bi-cultural, bi-lingual approach to education. This means that all students are able to access their education in the mode that best suits their individual needs, be it through Australian Sign Language (Auslan), spoken language, or any combination of the two.

The Centre holds the same values as the mainstream school: Care and respect, Achieving Success, Responsible Learners and Environmentally Aware.

All of our students enrolled in the Centre for Deaf Education are treated equally to the mainstream students. This includes:

- Providing equal access to the Australian Curriculum
- Full participation in all school activities
- The same high expectations of reaching academic potential
- The same high expectations of social, emotional and language development.

All of our students are catered for individually and fairly, regardless of their degree of hearing, language ability, cultural background, use of Auslan and/or additional disabilities. Staff within the Centre are all required to have and maintain a high level of fluency in Auslan, and facilitate effective learning and socialising for our students using a range of communication methods as determined by the individual needs of each child.

Similarly, our Centre staff are required to have and maintain a deep understanding of Deaf Culture, and use this to encourage the personal development of each child, as appropriate to their social and family context.

Our Centre staff work collaboratively with mainstream staff to provide a whole school culture of acceptance and diversity.

The Centre produces innovative and engaging methods of curriculum design and delivery, engaging in best practice for teaching Deaf and hard of hearing students with a focus on assistive technology and ICT integration.

In addition to this document, all staff and students of the Centre are subject to all relevant Brighton Primary School policies and agreements.