



PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION POLICY

NSW Disability Service Standard 2: Participation and Inclusion

Each person is encouraged and supported to contribute to social and civic life in their communities in the way they choose.

Overview

People with a disability should have the opportunity to participate in community life to their desired extent, as other people do. Mere presence in the community is insufficient; inclusion and active participation in general community life is desirable. Active participation comes through engagement and meaningful inclusion, which may result in contributing to the economy by working and/or choosing where to spend money.

POLICY STATEMENT

TAD

- works with other service providers and the broader community to increase the options and opportunities for people with a disability.
- supports people to have the specific aids they need to enable them to engage in the community as others do.
- strives to ensure that the people it supports are able to participate in the community in their own way and live meaningful lives like others in their cohort.
- actively promotes the genuine connection and active inclusion of children and adults with a disability with their chosen communities (and fulfil their obligations under the *Disability Services Act 1993*).
- supports and promotes the benefits to individuals and the community of people with a disability participating in the community through work, learning and leisure.
- assists people with a disability to be included and participate meaningfully in community life. Where possible, TAD staff and volunteers offer people with a disability the same opportunities and choices as others, so that people with a disability can join in everyday life-just as others do.

Further guidance on participation and inclusion is contained in other NSW Disability Service Standards, in particular Rights (Standard 1), Individual Outcomes (Standard 3) and Service Access (Standard 5).

Legislation

TAD recognises that it has legislative obligations, which are monitored and maintained in its Legal & Regulatory Compliance Register.