

The following was prepared by the AFA from the following Education Victoria and SVRC sites in 2019.

SVRC – Statewide Vision Resource Centre <http://svrc.vic.edu.au>

The Statewide Vision Resource Centre (SVRC) is a service of the Department of Education and Training, supporting inclusion and achievement for Victorian students who are blind or have low vision (6/18 plus). It provides:

- transcription of learning materials into accessible formats
- professional development and training for education professionals
- specialised teaching programs for eligible students
- specialised equipment for schools, via the Blind and Low Vision Technology Library
- the Educational Vision Assessment Clinic, in partnership with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital undertakes all assessment for eligibility.

<https://svrc.vic.edu.au/eligibility/education-vision-assessment-clinic-evac/>

Students with Vision between 6/18 and 6/60

These students are funded within the school's budget. They will have access to a Visiting Teacher Vision and their school will ensure all class teacher training, accessible materials (enlargements etc), teaching assistants where there is a safety risk (excursions or science experiments) and environmental adjustments (line marking or blinds) are provided.

Program for Students with Disabilities (for those with vision above 6/60)

If an application meets the eligibility criteria of the Program for Students with Disabilities, an allocation of additional funding will be provided as part of the Student Resource Package of the school/s that the student attends. The main difference between the support for students in this program and those with low vision (6/18 to 6/60) is that funding is available under the PSD for additional staff to work with the child in class (usually for nominated hours per week) until the child is able to work independently.

Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) guidelines

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/learningneeds/Pages/psdhandbook.aspx>

Student Support Group

This should be formed for both Low Vision and PSD students and will be made up of teachers, parents, the child (where appropriate) and any other relevant therapists or support workers (eg. an O&M expert). The PSD Guidelines reference above provides relevant information and templates for the operation of SSG's.

Individual Learning Plans (ILP's)

These will be developed following recommendations from the SSG and will be used as a guide for teachers who will then report back on achievements to the SSG.

The NDIS and Schools

The following link describes the relationship between schools and the NDIS, including how therapists (eg from VA or GD) can work with students in schools.

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/additional-needs/Pages/disability-ndis.aspx>