

The Up the Hill Project

Inclusion for people with a disability in University

SUPPORTED BY THE DISABILITY AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION UNIT



Proud winner of the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching

THE UP THE HILL PROJECT

The Up the Hill Project supports the participation of adults with a range of disabilities in the social and educational life of Flinders University.

Eligible participants choose university topics (subjects) to attend, and are supported by peer mentors to enjoy the services and educational opportunities the University has to offer.

The Project is supported by the Disability and Community Inclusion Unit at Flinders University within the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Participants are supported by the Project Coordinator and a Management Committee.

Our goal is to expand the horizons of individuals with disabilities by providing opportunities for increased social connections, educational opportunities and to experience the role of a University student.

The University setting provides participants the chance to experience, together with other students, the wide range of topics offered by the University.

The social interaction with academic staff and fellow students provide mutually enriching, educational and social opportunities for everyone within the University environment.

AIMS

The Up the Hill Project aims to provide opportunities for participants to:

- improve their learning in a positive, inclusive and supportive environment
- increase their range of interests and knowledge
- develop their social networks
- benefit from interaction with academic staff and students
- develop their self-esteem and self-confidence
- exercise their right to ongoing education
- explore their interests and exercise their choices for continued learning
- develop transferable skills for educational/vocational settings

WHAT A PERSON NEEDS TO DEMONSTRATE TO PARTICIPATE?

1. The person has a disability and is eligible to receive NDIS services.
2. The person indicates on their own, an interest in attending university.
3. The person is able to make choices from the available University topics.
4. The person should have social skills for educational and social settings.
5. The person must be able to arrange their own travel to and from the University.
6. The person must be able to arrange and care for immediate personal needs, which may include assistance from a support worker.

WHAT DO UP THE HILL PROJECT PARTICIPANTS DO?

The participants attend University classes of their choice, developing skills and helping them work towards future opportunities.

At the commencement of each semester participants will nominate topics in which they are interested. Peer mentors support participants to be involved in one of their nominated topics. This peer support aims to enhance participation and inclusion at university for everyone.

Participants are supported individually to identify goals, to select topics, to develop study schedules, and to be included within the University. The participants work towards achieving their desired goals with support from their peer mentors and the Project Coordinator.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

The Coordinator
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The Up the Hill Project aims to provide an inclusive and supportive opportunity at Flinders University enabling people with a disability to: access the University environment, develop social skills and social networks, and experience a range of educational opportunities and activities.