



CREATING
INCLUSION
CHAMPIONS
IN LOCAL
COMMUNITIES

BLUE
PRINT

Deaf
Children
Australia.

BLUEPRINT IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY DEAF CHILDREN AUSTRALIA

Deaf Children Australia is a national not for profit organisation offering unbiased advice and support to families raising children with a hearing loss.

OUR MISSION is to provide the support, advice, options, and unbiased information families need to raise engaged, connected, and resilient deaf and hard of hearing young Australians.

OUR VISION is to create a world where children and young people who are deaf or hard of hearing have every opportunity to reach their full potential.

WHAT IS BLUEPRINT: LEAD BY EXAMPLE?

Blueprint: Lead by Example aims to promote inclusion of deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) children and young people in mainstream recreational and sporting clubs. We empower clubs, groups and community organisations to be inclusive by giving them education, tools and resources. We also help families find and join clubs and groups that welcome DHH children.

Blueprint: Lead by Example is fully funded, so it's free and accessible to anyone. Join us for the win and become an inclusion champion!

WHY BLUEPRINT?

Blueprint exists to help DHH children and young people pursue their dreams and live life to the full. We're passionate about inclusion for people like 14-year-old EJ, who is profoundly deaf and plays tennis in a mainstream club. "My mum let my coaches know how to speak when they're teaching me - to turn and face me so I can read their lips and to speak a little louder," EJ says. "But apart from that, just not treating me differently from others."

As her mum says, "A great coach will change their style to get the best out of any kid." EJ's coach says giving lots of demonstrations is really helpful. "And I bring EJ up to the net and ask her what's going on if she's not understanding something," he adds. "If clubs promote that they're inclusive for everybody, that will make a big difference."

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EJ says having a supportive family, teachers and coaches has enabled her to thrive.

“I'm surrounded by people who are willing to help me throughout my journey as a deaf person.”



WHO IS BLUEPRINT FOR?

Clubs and community organisations

Would your club, organisation or group activity like to be more inclusive? Blueprint can help you kick goals! From swim clubs to chess clubs and footy teams to dance troupes, we'll help you gain the confidence to support DHH children and young people in your programs.

Your coaches, teachers or instructors will learn key things to remember when a DHH child joins you. You'll also get tools, tips and tactics for being more inclusive.

"My coach understands where I'm coming from and makes sure I'm in front of the group every training session." Tom, 20, AFL player

Families with a DHH child or young person

At Deaf Children Australia, we know what it takes to raise an engaged, resilient and connected young Australian. Blueprint can help you support your DHH child or young person to follow their dreams.

We have resources to help your child prepare to join a mainstream sport or activity and to share with their club, coach, teacher or organisation. Let's score points together!

"You worry for them, but you need to do the best for them – make them feel a part of their community, help them to thrive." Debbie, Tom's mum

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT BLUEPRINT?

As the first program of its kind in Australia, the idea for Blueprint came from research which showed over 50% of parents worry about their DHH child taking part in local community clubs. Blueprint exists to drop-kick that figure to zero!

Blueprint is the next step towards our vision of a future where DHH children have every opportunity to reach their full potential.

"It doesn't matter what disability you have. It doesn't matter what you're going through. You can still achieve anything you want to." Amelia, 12, dancer

WHAT'S ON OFFER?

Free webinars for clubs and parents – understand tactics for being inclusive, learn ways to communicate and include a DHH child, and become a champion for inclusion in your local community.

Blueprint website – coming soon, our new website will be packed full of relevant and helpful tips, ideas and resources.

Free resource packs – we'll be providing interested clubs and groups with free resources to give them confidence to include DHH children and young people in their programs. Get access to Auslan flash cards, fingerspelling posters, colouring in sheets, Auslan signing videos and more.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Deaf
Children
Australia.





95%

OF DHH CHILDREN
ARE BORN INTO
HEARING FAMILIES.

DID YOU KNOW?

Around 95% of DHH children are born into hearing families, who often feel isolated and confused. We help them navigate their new world.

Blueprint isn't just for sports clubs. If you offer activities or programs for children or young people, we'd love to have you on our side!

For further information about
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Deaf Children Australia uses the term 'deaf' to refer to all degrees and types of hearing loss.
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