



Special Educational Needs (SEN)



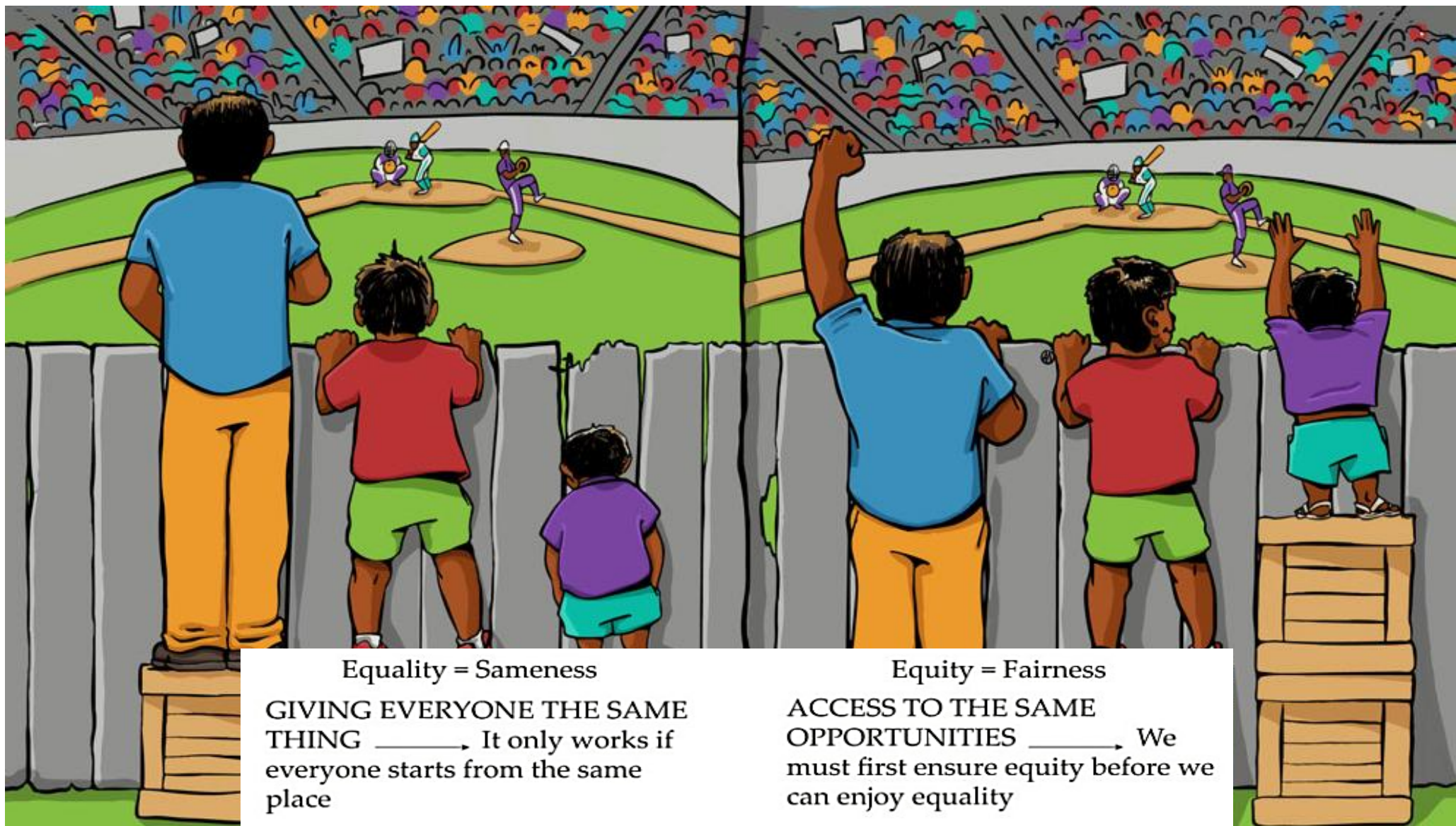
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Principles Related to Special Education

1. We need to consider the needs of students who need extra help during their studies.
2. We will make sure that students with special needs get the support they need.
3. We will ensure that students who need extra help can join activities with those who do not.
4. Our school has special teachers who create and run programs for students with special needs.
5. We have a plan that details how we will set goals, carry out our support, evaluate progress, and improve our special education efforts.



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Inclusion

Inclusion is not about a place,
or an instructional strategy,
or a curriculum;

Inclusion is about belonging,
being valued and having choices.

(Allen & Schwartz, 2001)



Definitions

Special Educational Needs

Students with special educational needs (SEN) often require additional support and assistance to learn effectively.

Four areas of SEN are

1. Communicating and interacting
2. Cognition and learning
3. Social, emotional, and mental health difficulties
4. Sensory or physical needs



Definitions

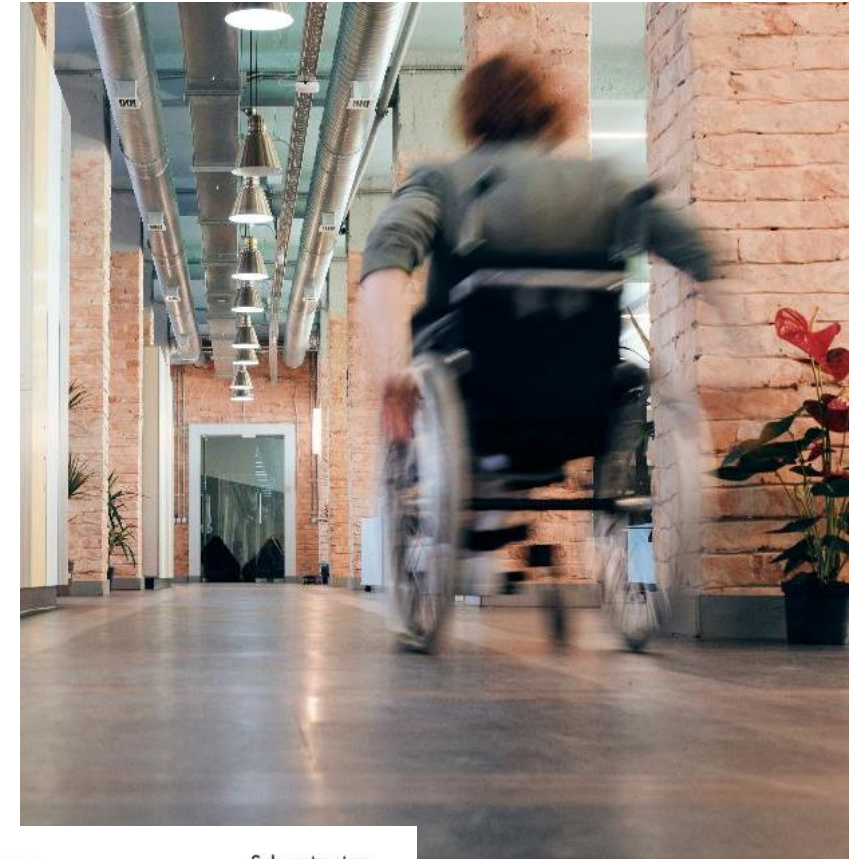
Learning Difficulty

A Learning Difficulty is a type of Special Education Needs, which affects areas of learning, such as reading, writing, spelling, mathematics, etc.

There are several levels of Learning Difficulties, such as: Specific Learning Difficulty - a particular difficulty in learning to read, write, spell etc.

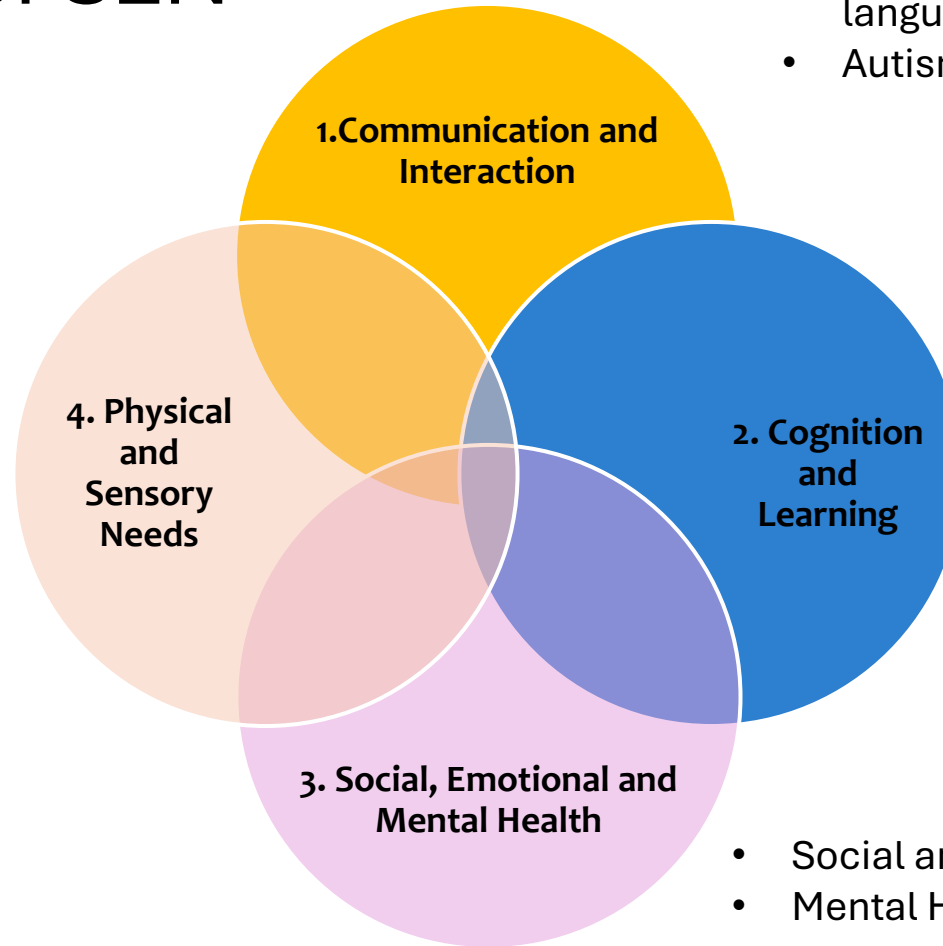
Disability

A person is considered disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a significant and long-term adverse effect on their ability to perform daily activities.



Four areas of SEN

- Physical Difficulties
- Visual Impairments
- Hearing Impairments
- Multi-Sensory Impairments
- Medical Needs



- Problems with talking and understanding language
- Using both spoken words and body language to communicate
- Autism spectrum disorder (ADS)

- Moderate Learning Difficulties
- Severe Learning Difficulties
- Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties
- Specific Learning Difficulty
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)

- Social and emotional difficulties
- Mental Health Needs

Cognition and Learning

- Learning difficulties cover a wide spectrum of needs

Mild

Moderate

Severe

Profound

Complex



Continuum of learning disability

1. Communication and Interaction

- A wide range of difficulties can arise related to all aspects of communication.
- These difficulties may include:
 - Issues with fluency
 - Problems forming sounds and words
 - Challenges in formulating sentences, understanding what others say, and using language in social contexts.
- These students may struggle with various learning activities overall, or they may experience specific challenges with certain tasks, such as reading and spelling



2. Cognition and Learning

- Developmental difficulties can make it hard for students to learn certain skills, even when they receive help at school.
- Some examples of these difficulties are **dyslexia**, which affects reading; **dyscalculia**, which impacts math skills; and **dyspraxia**, which can interfere with motor skills.
- Students with these challenges may find it difficult to express their thoughts or understand what others are saying.
- They might struggle to make friends and connect with others, and they may have trouble understanding their surroundings or staying organized.
- It's also important to know that many students with specific learning difficulties may have other needs, like Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), which can further affect their learning.



3. Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Difficulties

- Students who find it hard to control their emotions, interact socially, or cope with mental health issues may face challenges in their emotional and social growth.
- These students might struggle with low self-esteem and confidence, making it tough for them to follow rules or behave well in school.
- They may show immature social skills and have difficulty making and keeping friends. These challenges can lead to withdrawing from others or acting out in class.
- Mental health issues might show up as mood changes like anxiety or sadness, rebellious behavior, aggression, self-harm, substance abuse, eating problems, or unexplained physical issues.
- The background of mental health issues includes diagnosed conditions such as psychosis, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder, all of which require cooperation with health services and often medical treatment from a doctor.



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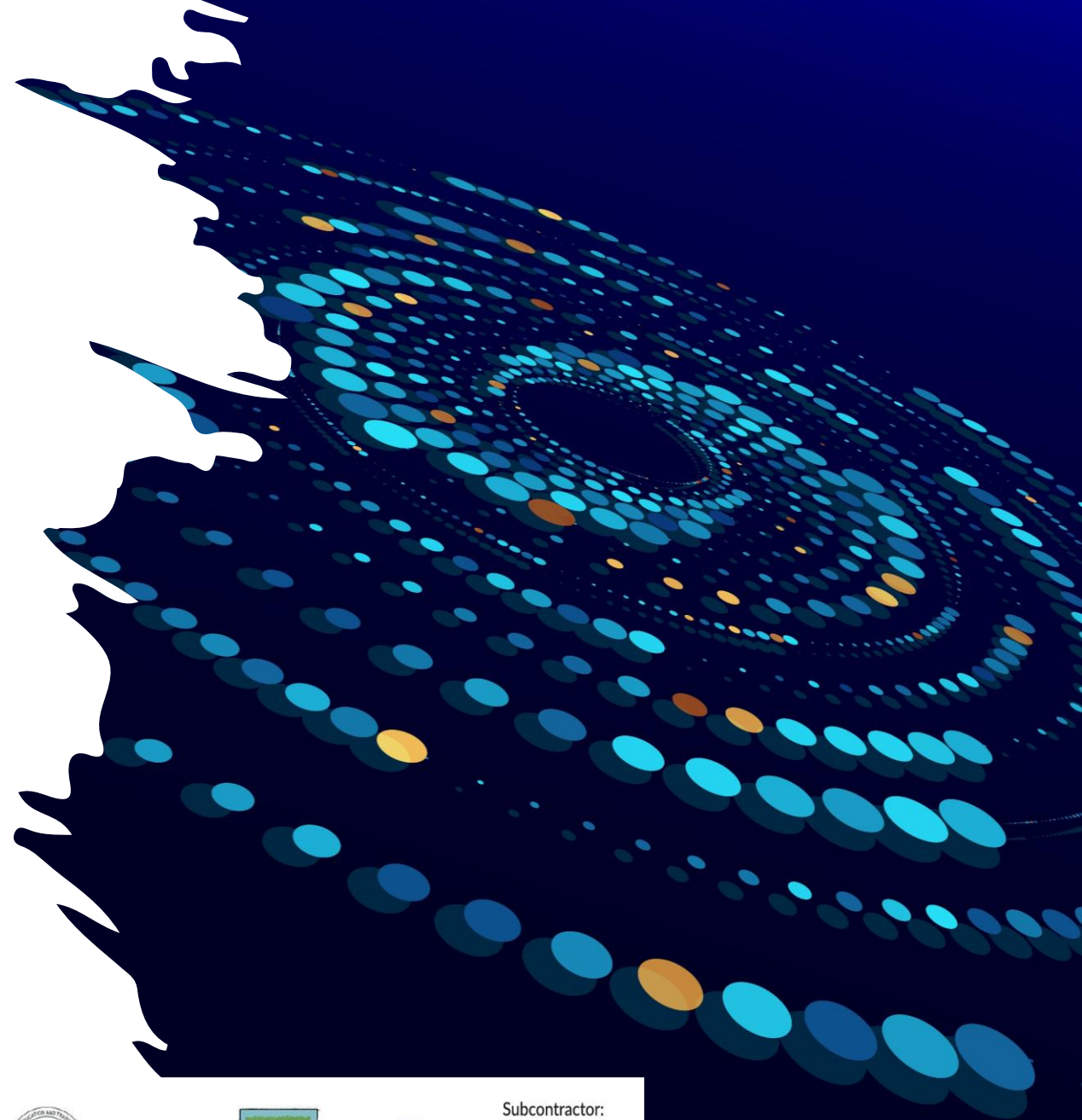


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4. Physical and Sensory Needs

- These students may have a disability or a medical condition that has an impact on their learning. They may have a visual or hearing impairment. Learning environments must be made accessible to them so that they face no barriers to learning.
- A hearing-impaired person has a level of hearing damage that requires them to use hearing aids or a sign language interpreter to communicate effectively during teaching and interaction situations. Therefore, special attention must be given to the career planning of hearing-impaired students, and the learning environment must be made accessible and safe for them.
- A visually impaired person has a long-term, medically defined visual impairment that cannot be corrected with regular glasses or contact lenses. It is essential to pay attention to the career choice and career planning of the visually impaired at an early stage.





Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Autism Spectrum Disorder is a term used to describe a neurological difference in brain development that has a marked effect on how a person develops
- Most students with autism will have individual educational needs to be met in these areas:
 - Understanding the social interactive style and emotional expression of staff and peers
 - Understanding and using communication and language - both verbal and non-verbal
 - Differences in how information is processed
 - Differences in the way sensory information is processed.



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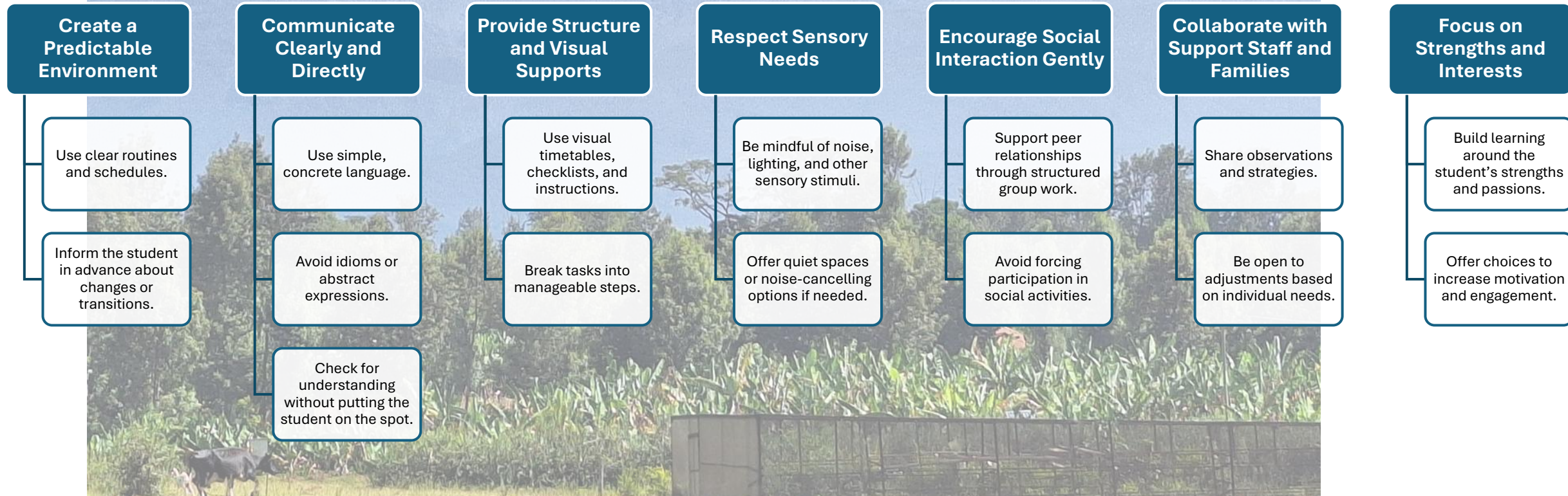
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Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders



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How can you recognize when a student needs support?



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1. Gather Relevant Information

- How the student interacts with others.
- How the student works in a group.
- The best environments and methods for the student's learning.
- The student's past studies and how well they have done academically.
- Health-related information.
- What motivates the student to study, including their interests and skills.
- The student's personal relationships and support systems.
- Observations about the student's well-being and self-care.
- The student's personal goals and dreams.



2. Cooperation with families and student guardians

Invite families to share approaches that are successful at home.

Identify potential barriers and ask families for solutions based on their personal experiences and expertise.

Encourage to share successful tools and equipment they use at home.

Ask families to share a student's likes and interests, what they're good at, what they need help with, and what they can do independently.



3. Support self-reflection

- Help students think about what they are doing well and where they need more help.
- Use different self-assessment tools and methods to help students express their thoughts and dreams about their studies and future careers.



The Graduated Approach to Special Educational Needs (SEN)

