

Addressing gaps in ASD professional learning in South Australia: evidenced- informed design & delivery.

The presentation will review the outcomes of a government sponsored research project focused on identifying educators' engagement in ASD professional learning in SA and gaps that emerged. While there were numerous options for introductory programs about ASD options for educators with more extensive knowledge and skills were limited. Given many educators also reported a lack of confidence in supporting students with ASD who presented with more challenging behaviour and learning needs PL designs to address these gaps were required. The SA Minister for Education and Child Development acted on recommendations from the initial report and provided funding for a post-graduate level qualification designed to support educators with experience to develop more in depth knowledge and capacities to act as leaders in their own schools and districts. This presentation will report on the design of the program, reasons behind the design and aspirations for the educators involved.