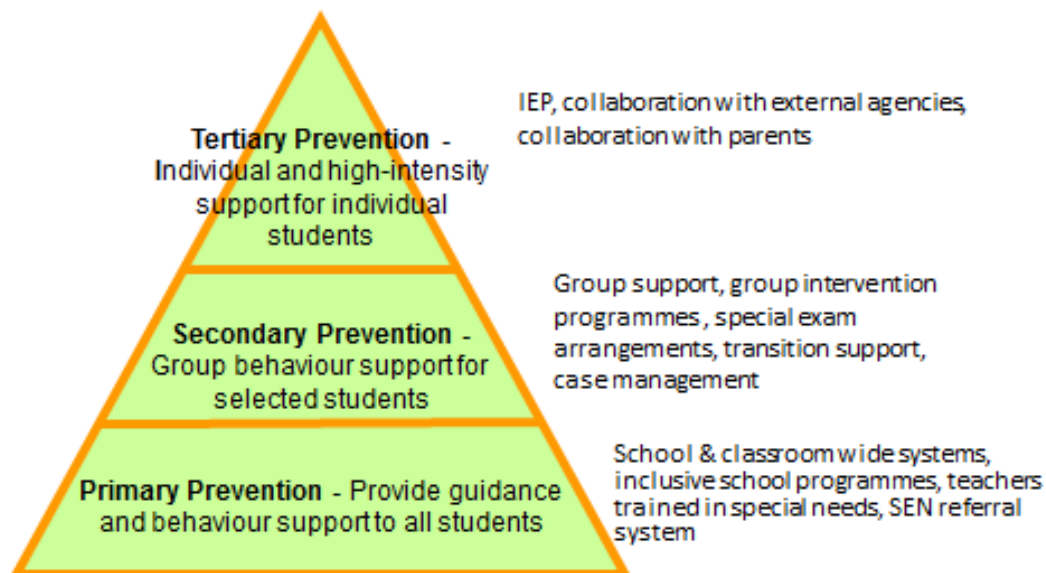


## SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) FRAMEWORK

Hillgrove Secondary School is a resource school that provides a school-wide support system for students with mild special educational needs and physical disabilities. The school is equipped with facilities to help students with physical disabilities and resourced with an allied educator (learning and behaviour support) to support students with learning and behavioural needs. The areas of support include, transition support, counselling provisions, discipline policies and collaboration with external agencies. The following pyramid illustrated how the students with special needs are supported in school.



### **A) Allied Educator (Learning & Behavioural Support)- AED(LBS)**

The primary role is to provide learning and behavioural support to students with mild special educational needs such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Dyslexia, etc.

AED(LBS) conducts individual or group withdrawal sessions with students during school hours or after school. Collaborate closely with teachers, parents and external agencies to help students cope better in the school.

## **B) Information on the common learning difficulties and how parents can help**

### 1. ADHD

Is a term applied to people whose behaviour is persistently impulsive, inattentive and overactive in comparison to others of the same mental age. Students have difficulty in sustaining attention, listening, following instructions and organising. Students may be forgetful, easily distracted, blurt out answers, make inappropriate comments and interrupt.

The hyperactive element of the disorder can result in fidgeting, leaving their seat, talking incessantly and generally wanting to be “on the go”. These behaviours present themselves in a wide range of ways according to the age, environment, intelligence and personality.

#### How parents/guardians can help

Parents need to accept their child’s ADHD condition and have reasonable expectations of them. They must believe their child has the strength and potential to succeed in life. Parents need to maintain a positive attitude in helping their child by trying different strategies and taking charge of the outcome. Also provide guidance to help their children reflect on what has happened and analyse what can be done to resolve the problems encountered.

### 2. Dyslexia

Is a neurologically based specific learning difficulty that is characterised by difficulties in reading, writing and spelling. It can also affect the processing of information, motor skills, sequencing, short term memory, left/right orientation and self-esteem.

#### How parents/guardians can help

Parents need to offer consistent, ongoing encouragement and support to their children. Language problems often make it difficult for children with dyslexia to express their feelings so it is important for parents to help them learn to talk about their feelings and listen to them.

Parents should reward effort, not just “the result” and grades should be less important than progress. Celebrate small progress and successes. When dealing with unacceptable behaviour, parents must not inadvertently discourage their children with words such as “lazy” or “hopeless”. Such words can seriously damage the child’s self-esteem.

### 3. ASD

Is a developmental disorder which causes pervasive impairment in thinking, feeling, language and the ability to relate to others.

### How parents/guardian can help

To help their child with autism, parents should equip themselves with the knowledge of autism. Read and attend workshop about children with autism and strategies on how to manage them. Parents should try to understand their child's way of communication and help them communicate effectively. Make effort to know their child's interests so that parents can use those activities to create social and communication opportunities for their child.

Parents should seek help if they feel persistently overwhelmed or depressed, or the stress of caring for their children. They can join a chat groups or parent support group and make time for the activities they enjoy.

### **C) Useful Links for parents**

#### **ADHD**

Society for the Promotion of ADHD Research and Knowledge (SPARK)

[www.spark.org.sg](http://www.spark.org.sg)

Child Guidance Clinic Health Promotion Board

[www.imh.com.sg](http://www.imh.com.sg)

#### **Dyslexia**

Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS)

[www.das.org.sg](http://www.das.org.sg)

Parent in Education website – Click on the Link - "[what is Dyslexia](#)"

#### **Autism**

Autism Resource Centre (ARC)

[www.autism.org.sg](http://www.autism.org.sg)

Autism Association of Singapore (AAS)

[www.autismlinks.org.sg](http://www.autismlinks.org.sg)

Centre for Enabled Living

[www.cel.sg](http://www.cel.sg)

## **Physical/Hearing/Visual Impairment**

Singapore Association of the Visually Handicapped  
[www.savh.org.sg](http://www.savh.org.sg)

The Singapore Association for the Deaf  
[www.sadeaf.org.sg](http://www.sadeaf.org.sg)

Society for the Physically Disabled (SPD)  
[www.spd.org.sg](http://www.spd.org.sg)

### **D) Contact AED(LBS)**

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