**Appeal for Support**

**Can you help our students?**

**Mt Ommaney Special School** has doubled in size since 2012 and urgently needs your support to expand and upgrade facilities to meet the diverse range of specialised programming required for our students. To achieve this we are calling for your help to donate or advocate on our students’ behalf, to family, friends, employees and work colleagues.

The school and P&C have developed a number of projects to address this critical need through the provision of specialised educational facilities and the delivery of innovative programming.

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**IMAGINATION STATION**

**Target $8,000**

Imagination Station is a drama program which was developed to address the lack of recreational activities for children like Abigail (pictured right) and their siblings. The program delivers multiple benefits for the local community:

- Engaging children with complex special needs, in meaningful ways, with fun recreational activities
- Developing lifelong supportive networks between siblings of children with disabilities
- Connecting parents of children with disabilities, providing opportunities to share their knowledge and experiences

100% of families have reported that this is the only time they have been able to access a program where their child with a disability has been included as an equal alongside their able bodied siblings. This program makes positive changes to people’s lives. Donations can be made directly at [http://www.schoolsplus.org.au/imagination-station/](http://www.schoolsplus.org.au/imagination-station/)

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“Imagination Station enabled our family to come together for the first time and experience an activity outside the home. Abigail’s 3 younger brothers were enthused about attending somewhere that was not focused only on Abigail and her needs. As parents it was exciting that we did not have to think about access to the event. Everyone was included. Imagination Station provided an opportunity for our entire family to have fun and giggles together. Nowhere else have we had this opportunity!”

Tennille Graham (Abigail’s mum)

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**EARLY YEARS SENSORY LEARNING CENTRE**

**Target $40,000**

The Department of Education and Training has pledged $100,000. We are now only $40,000 away from making this exciting vision a reality! A Sensory Learning Centre will provide an essential play based learning opportunity to complement the more formal classroom based programs. Motivation is the key to learning and students will be stimulated to explore this space which is designed to provide enjoyable sensory challenges, opportunities and experiences. Perhaps you know a company who can donate or provide in-kind support of materials or labour?
Our Early Childhood Development Program (ECDP) continues to experience significant growth. Maybe you can help to enhance our play based curriculum through the purchase of exciting new play equipment such as this in-ground trampoline that is accessible to all; no need to climb up, no need for netting that weathers and no worries about falling off.

“Mt Ommaney Special School has been life changing for Matty and our family. He is making consistent progress which is being noticed by all who know him; his Paediatrician, family, friends and even teachers from my daughter’s school. He is becoming less anxious, understanding more, following directions better, being more involved and most importantly is a happy little boy.”

Chris (Matthew’s mum)

Our bike riding program improves the learning and social outcomes of students with multiple disabilities. While many students are unable to talk, their enjoyment is evident by their smiles and happy vocalisations. Importantly, the program aims to develop students’ mobility and to maximise their opportunities for independence. Some senior students have outgrown our current fleet of tricycles and urgently require your support to help them to continue in the program.

How you or your company can help

You can be part of creating a community of social inclusion and equality. Maybe you have the means to donate or to encourage your company to do so. Maybe our students can be the beneficiary from a raffle or event you run. There’s lots of ways to help and donations are tax deductible:

- Hold a fundraising event
- Provide in-kind support (equipment, skills etc.)
- Share your great fundraising ideas
- Donate to: Mt Ommaney Special School DGR
  BSB: 064 173
  Account Number: 10318878

For more information please contact the school on (07) 3717 6888 or at info@mtommanespecs.eq.edu.au.