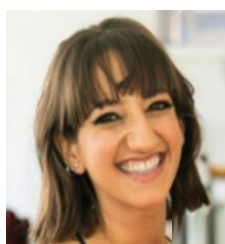


InSpEd Postgraduate Student Award

Each year, we ask the staff of the postgraduate special/inclusive education courses that we have provisionally endorsed to nominate a student for an InSpEd Postgraduate Student Award. Those given an award are sent an award certificate, and are provided with a year's associate membership of InSpEd as well as being featured in an issue of InSpEd Insights. Given the devaluation of qualified special educators over recent years, we believe that it is important to celebrate not only those who have pursued qualifications in this important area, despite the fact that this additional skill is not valued by their employer, but those who have exceeded in their studies.

Janey Jankelson, a postgraduate special/inclusive education student from Sydney University has been awarded an InSpEd Postgraduate student award for 2023. The University of Sydney Special and Inclusive Education Team, who nominated her for the award, described Janey as a high achieving student who completed the MEd (Special and Inclusive Education) at the end of 2023.

Janey Jankelson



In 2015, I was awarded a Master of Teaching (Primary Education) from the University of Sydney, and in 2022, I enrolled in a Master of Education (Special and Inclusive Education) whilst teaching full-time. This has allowed me to integrate the latest research and best practices into my teaching, ensuring personalised approaches for all students. Combining classroom experience with academic pursuit has empowered me to develop and implement evidence-based strategies, ensuring that all students can access the curriculum and are actively engaged in their learning. Undertaking postgraduate studies in an area close to my core values has strengthened the qualities and practices I deliver in the classroom and allowed me to be amongst a network of colleagues who share a passionate mindset.

My collaborative efforts with the Learning Support Team include creating behaviour management plans, co-leading review meetings, and updating individualised education plans with appropriate accommodations for students. I have also played a role in developing equitable aide time to support students with disabilities effectively within mainstream education. I have successfully nurtured and supported students, spanning from complex medical needs to challenging behaviour. I actively collaborate with external agencies to implement targeted learning goals beyond the classroom. My responsibility as an educator is to nurture students' social, emotional, creative, and academic skills within a safe and supportive learning environment where they are encouraged to take risks and strive to their potential.