



Wheelnutz Garage: Aligning Supports with NDIS Impairment Categories

Wheelnutz Garage is a pioneering social enterprise operating in Southeast Queensland. It offers a unique automotive-based program designed to support individuals with disabilities in building capacity, developing employment skills, and fostering social connections. The program aligns with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Impairment Categories, ensuring that supports provided are directly related to participants' eligible impairments, as outlined in the NDIS Act.

Intellectual Impairment

Supports:

- Hands-on mechanical training to enhance problem-solving and information processing skills.
- Tailored mentorship programs to improve communication, literacy, and numeracy.
- Structured routines to support memory and task sequencing.

Outcome: Participants develop practical skills and confidence, leading to increased independence and/or employability

Cognitive Impairment

Supports:

- Step-by-step instructional methods to aid learning and decision-making.
- Use of visual aids and hands-on activities to maintain attention and engagement.
- Regular feedback to reinforce learning and build judgment skills.

Outcome: Enhanced ability to learn new tasks, make informed decisions, and maintain focus in a work and social environment.

Sensory Impairment

Supports:

- Adapted workshop environments to accommodate visual or hearing impairments.
- Use of assistive technologies and tools to facilitate participation.
- Training in sensory-friendly settings to reduce overstimulation.



Outcome: Improved access to learning opportunities and increased participation in community and work activities.

Neurological Impairment

Supports:

- Customised programs for individuals with acquired brain injuries, focusing on skill redevelopment.
- Integration of occupational therapy principles to support motor function and coordination.
- Emphasis on routine and repetition to reinforce neural pathways.

Outcome: Restored functional abilities and enhanced capacity for employment and daily living tasks

Physical Impairment

Supports:

- Accessible workshop layouts to accommodate mobility aids.
- Modified tools and equipment to suit individual physical capabilities.
- Physical resilience training to improve strength and endurance.

Outcome: Increased physical independence and ability to perform job-related tasks safely and effectively or engage in social and hobby related activities.

Psychosocial Impairment

Supports:

- Trauma-informed care approaches to create a safe and supportive environment.
- Opportunities for social interaction to build relationships and community connections.

Outcome: Enhanced mental well-being, reduced anxiety, and improved social skills, leading to greater community participation.