



# SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH ASD IN HIGH SCHOOL - MOTIVATORS AND REINFORCERS

## Use motivators or reinforcers

Everyone needs motivation or reinforcement. Reward systems can be particularly useful in the high school setting to:

- motivate students to participate or engage in an activity or routine
- change a behaviour
- learn a new skill.

When people think of reward systems, they usually think of tokens or sticker charts for children of a younger age range. Reward systems can be just as effective for high school students. It's important however the students interests are incorporated and adaptations are made to suit the student's age and developmental level. It may be helpful to start by writing a list of all of your students' interests and consider ways in which these could be incorporated into a reward system or into an activity in the high school setting.

For example:

- The student who loves birds, may be motivated to complete a short task or parts of a task if they know they can spend time outside afterwards spotting birds.
- If the student who loves computers, participates in class discussion related to the topic, they may be able to spend time researching computer technology that may be purchased for the ICT room or they may be able to complete an upcoming assignment using their preferred technology.

The development and implementation of a reward system should be done in collaboration with the student and their parents. This way, the student may feel a sense of control and ownership, and the parent may be able to reinforce the concept across environments.

Examples of individualised reward systems

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 1					
Period 2					
Period 3					
Period 4					
Period 5					
5 Signatures =	20mins Internet time	Ride my bike after school	Basketball practice	20mins Xbox time	Go to the beach

**Monday M**

**English** Points:

Signed:

**Maths** Points:

Signed:

**Science** Points:

Signed:

**Art** Points:

Signed:

**T&E** Points:

Signed:

**Computer** Points:

Signed: