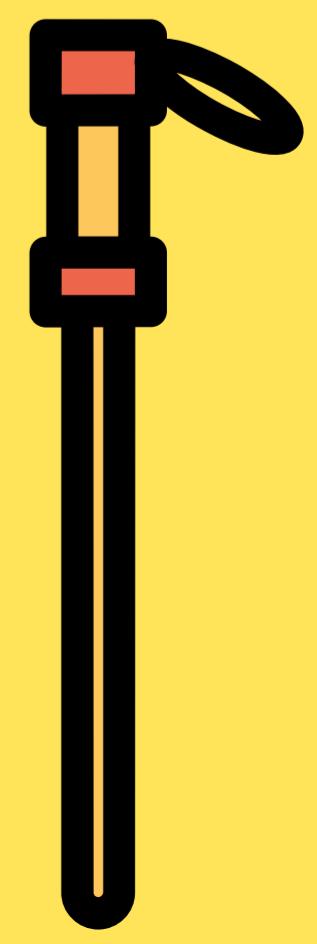
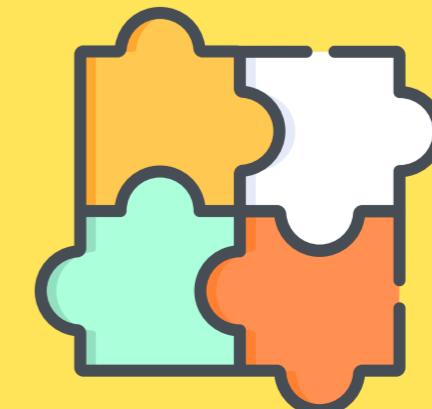


Useful Tips



.....
from students with SEN



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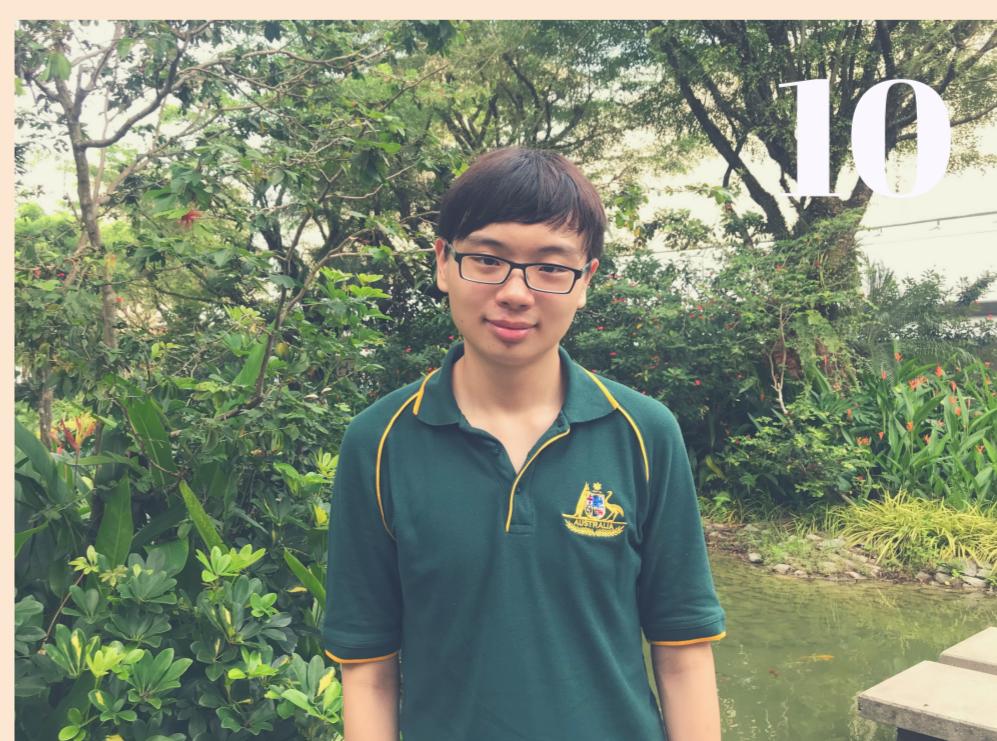
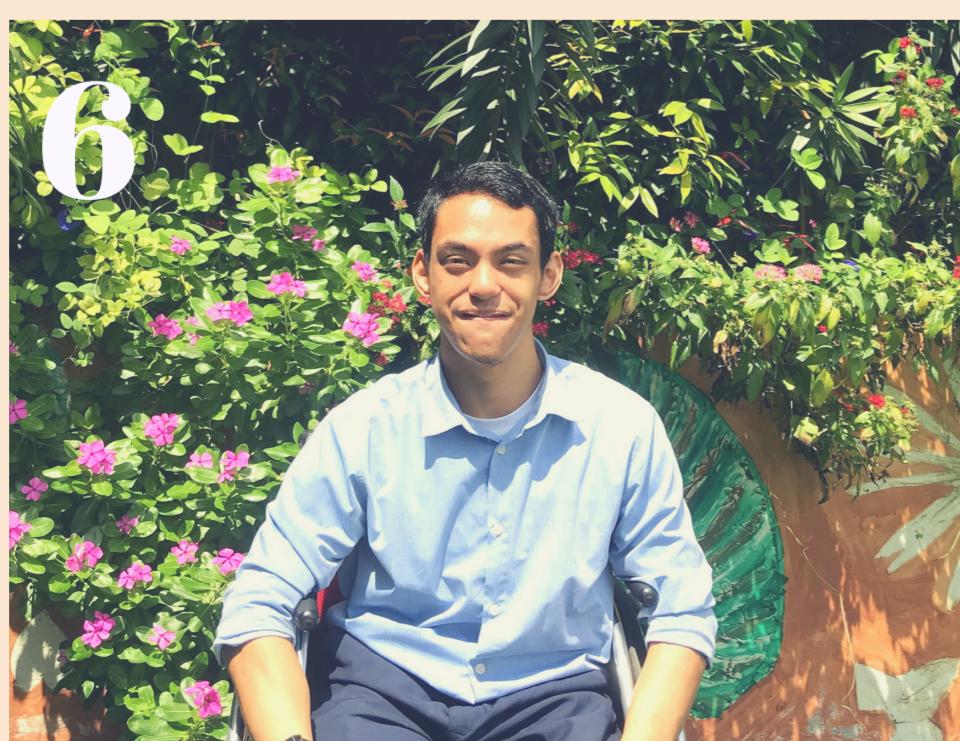
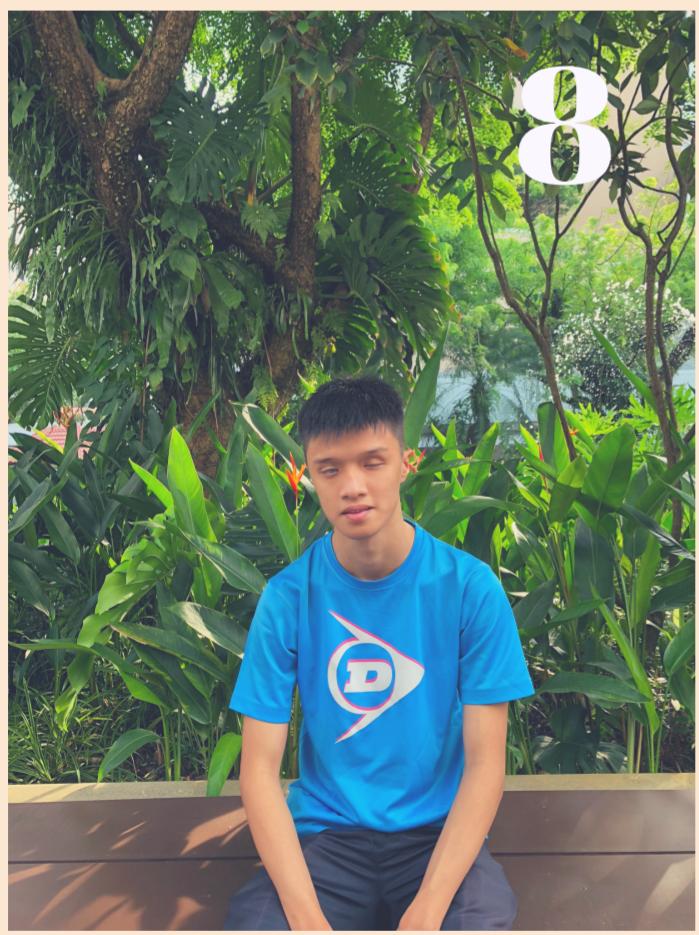
Produced by the Ground Zero Final Year Project (FYP) Team
(Students from Diploma in Social Sciences (Social Work) 2018)



In Collaboration with Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP)
Student Care & Guidance (SCG) Department

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FOREWORD

The 'Useful Tips from Students with SEN' was produced as part of a Year 3 final year project by students from Diploma in Social Work with collaboration from Student Care & Guidance (SCG) SEN Counsellors with the intention to create awareness of diversity inclusion starting from our own campus, Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP).

We hope the content will be good information for you: students who want to know more about tips to interact with people with SEN, students with SEN coming to NYP and educators who want to know more about SEN.

We would like to express our appreciation to the students with Special Education Needs (SEN) featured in 'Useful Tips from Students with SEN' for willingly taking the time to help us put this booklet together.



MESSAGE FROM SEN COUNSELLORS



Hello!

We are SEN Counsellors, Belle, Su Li, Wan Ting and Kosheela, from the Student Care & Guidance (SCG) Department. Our main role is to make NYP, especially our academic programme, student-related activities, facilities and events accessible to students¹ with disabilities. It is our commitment that no one shall be denied opportunities to learn on the basis of disability. We strive to provide support for all students with diversity to facilitate equal access as NYP student.

Our roles include:

- Intervention and counselling support
- Administrative support such as facilitating application for Ministry of Education (MOE) SEN funding to procure assistive devices² and support services
- Academic support arrangement, where we ensure that students have adequate support to meet their learning needs
- Transition support: Enrolment, School adjustment, School-to-Internship, Post-graduation
- Educating classmates and lecturers of students with SEN on how they can create an inclusive and caring environment
- Referral of students to other external services, if necessary

We would like to thank the students in Social Work for this opportunity to collaborate and advocate on removing barriers and providing access for students with SEN on our campus. We are privileged to be in this profession, learning from our students and embracing the notion of disability as a culture.



¹ 'Students with SEN', 'students with disabilities', and 'students with special needs' have the same meaning, and are the more generally used terms. However, there may be other terms used to describe this.

² Assistive Services and Technologies are the library resources that help to make it possible for individuals with a visual, physical, hearing or speech disability to access reading materials, equipment and services. (<https://www.mdpls.org/assistive-services/assistive-services.asp>)

DISABILITIES FEATURED IN THIS BOOK

Physical Disability¹:

- **Skeletal Dysplasia²**

Skeletal Dysplasia (commonly known as dwarfism) affects the bones and cartilage growth of an individual. It is a genetic condition and their physique may be small or different. (symptoms may vary).

Sensory Disabilities:

- **Visual Impairment³**

Visual impairment is a term used to describe any kind of vision loss, whether it is someone who has total or partial vision loss.

Developmental Disability:

- **Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)⁴**

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disorder that affects communication and behaviour. ASD is a wide spectrum and may affect brain development.

- **Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)⁵**

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a neuro-developmental disorder characterised by serious and persistent difficulties such as; Inattention, Impulsivity and Hyperactivity.

Learning Disability:

- **Dyslexia⁶**

Dyslexia is a type of specific learning difficulty which can be identified as a developmental difficulty of language learning and cognition. It primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling.

¹ <https://achieveaustralia.org.au/disability-services/physical-disability/>

² <https://www.healthline.com/health/skeletal-dysplasia>

³ <https://kidshealth.org/en/teens/visual-impairment.html>

⁴ <https://www.imh.com.sg/clinical/page.aspx?id=250>

⁵ <https://www.imh.com.sg/clinical/page.aspx?id=249>

⁶ <https://www.das.org.sg/about-dyslexia/what-is-dyslexia/what-is-dyslexia.html>



LIFE OF A STUDENT WITH PHYSICAL
IMPAIRMENT

AKRAM. PURSUING HIS PASSION

PURSUING HIS PASSION

Akram Ramadan! Akram is a Year 2 Multimedia and Infocomm Technology student in NYP. He was diagnosed with Skeletal Dysplasia at birth, which required him to use a wheelchair ever since he was in secondary school.



Tips for You

Akram: “Don’t be scared to approach us, we won’t bite. I know from your perspective you might be unsure on how to approach people with disabilities, but you can approach us like any other person, there’s nothing to be afraid of.”

Ridzuhan (Akram’s friend): “Don’t think of them as someone who is any lower or higher than yourself. We are all the same.”

Tips for Students with SEN

Akram: “Don’t be afraid to make friends. You may feel inferior but the people in this school will treat you like how they treat anyone else. Pursue your goals in school and don’t let your disability hold you down.”





LIFE OF A STUDENT WITH VISUAL
IMPAIRMENT

KAH WEE: UNABASHED

UNABASHED

Kah Wee is a Year 2 Multimedia & Infocomm Technology student. He has a visual impairment. His left eye is completely blind and he has partial vision on his right eye.

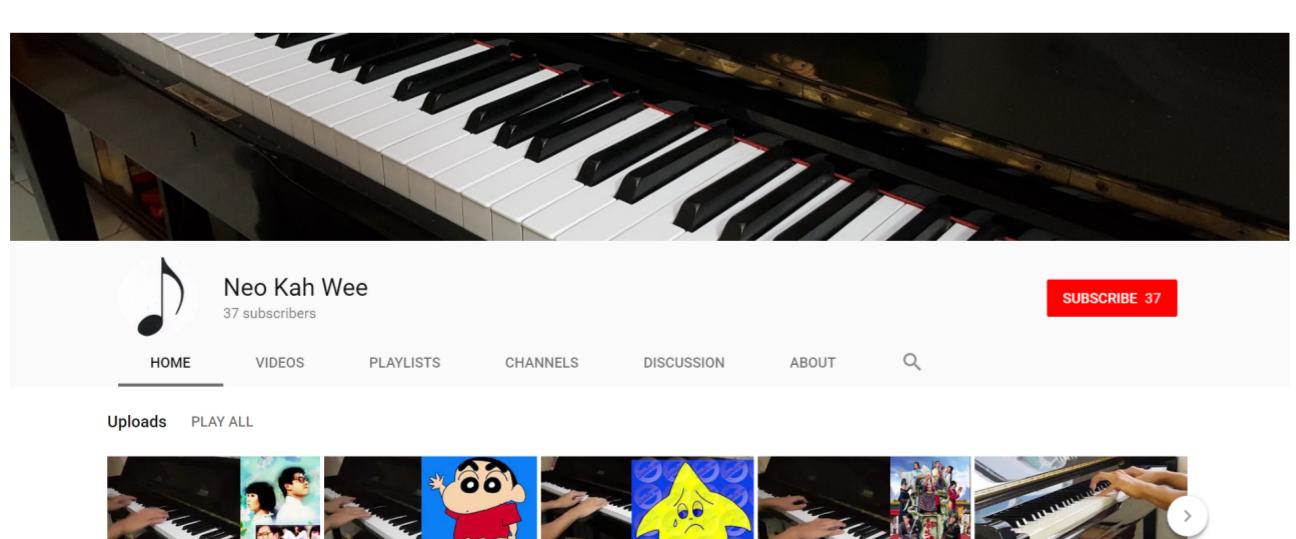
Goalball

Kah Wee is involved with Goalball.¹⁴ He first got to know about the sport through his teacher. It was founded back in 2015 when the ASEAN Para Games was held in Singapore. He currently plays with a team and attends training every week. Kah Wee enjoys this sport as it teaches him plenty of life values, such as choosing to focus on what one has rather than what one cannot control. He also feels that this is a sport that gives people the opportunity to learn about PWDs and the idea of inclusion, although not everyone would have the courage to try due to the fear of being hit by a heavy ball.

Youtube Channel

Kah Wee also has a Youtube channel where he actively uploads videos of himself playing the piano. He has been playing the instrument for 5-6 years and enjoys making piano covers of pop songs. You can watch his videos at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ZaWwoxSGAvDBCUZhf_8qA



Tips for You

Jerdwut: "Try to understand them and what they're going through. Find out what kind of things they like and don't like. Observe and don't push too far. Let them have their space, let them do what they want."

Tips for Students with SEN

Kah Wee: "You have to learn how to be independent. Not every time everybody will come and help you. Other people have their issues too. You must know how to adapt. If people don't help you, you really have to think of what you can do to settle your problem."



¹⁴ Goalball is played exclusively by athletes who are blind or visually impaired. It was invented in 1946 to help rehabilitate veterans who had lost their sight during the Second World War. (<https://www.paralympic.org/goalball>)



LIFE OF A STUDENT WITH AUTISM

AL.
**BREAKING
OUT OF
HIS SHELL**

AI is a Year 2 Food Science and Nutrition student in NYP. He has a developmental disability, specifically mild Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), which affects his cognitive and social abilities.



Tips for you

AI: "They may need more support but that should not mean that they should be treated unfairly or looked down upon just because of their condition."

Tips for Students with SEN

AI: "If you have a condition, it doesn't mean that you're very different. You are still human, even if you tend to behave in a different way."





LIFE OF A STUDENT WITH ADHD &
DYSLEXIA

DLOYSIUS: METAMOR PHOSIS

METAMORPHOSIS

Dloysius,
a Year 2 Digital & Precision Engineering student in NYP.
He has a learning disability, which is Dyslexia & Attention Deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder (ADHD).



Tips for You

Dloysius: "When life keeps beating you down, the only way to go is to find the motivation to keep you going."

Tips for Students with SEN

Dloysius: "Seek help and get support from lecturers, friends, family and SEN counsellors."



LIFE OF A STUDENT WITH DYSLEXIA

SASHA. TURNING THE TIDES

TURNING THE TIDES

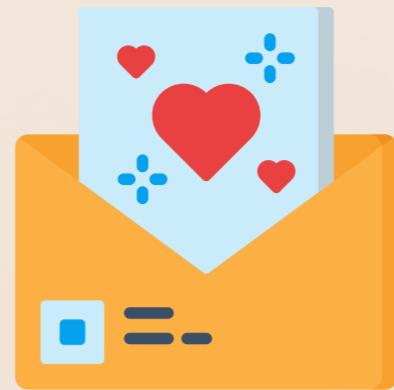


Nurul Assyakirin Izzati,

also known as Sasha! She is a second-year student pursuing a Diploma in Business Management and is a bubbly, warm, outgoing individual who radiates confidence with every word she speaks. Many would not expect that she actually has Dyslexia, a condition that she grappled with especially in her younger days when she was initially diagnosed.

Tips for You

- Empathy is key
- Treat PWDs equally
- Don't be afraid to initiate conversations
- Have an open mind



Concluding Message

We hope that their tips help to build a caring and inclusive culture in NYP.

If you would like to find out more about the topic of Disability, here are some resources you can look at:

NCSS Removing Barriers: Understanding Persons with Disabilities

[https://www.ncss.gov.sg/NCSS/media/NCSS-Publications/\(Booklet\)-Understanding-Persons-with-Disabilities.pdf](https://www.ncss.gov.sg/NCSS/media/NCSS-Publications/(Booklet)-Understanding-Persons-with-Disabilities.pdf)

3rd Enabling Masterplan (2017-2021)

https://www.ncss.gov.sg/NCSS/media/NCSS-Documents-and-Forms/EM3-Final_Report_20161219.pdf

Disabled People's Association Glossary of Disability Terminology

<http://www.dpa.org.sg/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/DPA-Disability-Glossary-FINAL.pdf>



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