



PRODUCED BY

Dr Ceridwen Owen,

School of Architecture & Design, University of Tasmania in collaboration with students from the Master of Architecture:

- Seahfern Khoo
- Amy Nelson
- Marilyn Burns
- Khai Jie Ng
- Abdul Ahmad
- Dominic Anastasio
- Corrine Fong
- Saiful Ibrahim
- Jaime Jiminez
- Joseph Jones
- Maryam Sadegh Nezhad
- Yudan Wang
- Abdel Soudan
- Joshua Duncan
- Mohamad Rahimi Mohd Sukeri
- Ahmad Firdaus Ismail
- Vignesh Nagamalai

Graphics by Clare Dunlop

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Dr Ceridwen Owen, School of Architecture & Design, University of Tasmania
Locked Bag 1-323, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia
ceridwen.owen@utas.edu.au

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Design across the Spectrum: Play spaces was researched and written by Dr Ceridwen Owen in collaboration with students in the Master of Architecture program at the University of Tasmania.

Mary Brake, Autism Consultant from the Department of Education, was pivotal in providing expert guidance throughout the research project and feedback on final drafts.

The team would also like to thank Riverside Primary School, Launceston, Tasmania for providing the opportunity to refine and pilot the design guidelines in a real life design project.

This project facilitated an inspiring interdisciplinary sharing of knowledge that brought together architecture and the needs of the individual with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The collaboration has resulted in the production of a collection of insightful principles that can be applied to any situation - simply or elaborately.

The needs of individuals with autism and inherent challenges are in the main very invisible and unrecognised. As a result individuals with an ASD are very limited in the number of environments that they are able to access.

Design that is aware and considers these needs is groundbreaking and application of it is sure to open up greater life possibilities for individuals with an ASD. This work offers an invaluable resource to anyone thinking about these individuals, the spaces they currently occupy and increasing these possibilities and life's potentials!

Mary Brake
Autism Consultant
Learning Services North
Department of Education

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