



FACT SHEET - Prospective Parents - Living with Down syndrome

If someone has had no experience with someone with Down syndrome, they won't know what they're capable of. This video shows the perspectives of people with Down syndrome talking about what they can achieve and also has parents' perspectives on parenting a child with Down syndrome.

Down syndrome is a naturally occurring, chromosomal condition in which a person has an extra copy of chromosome 21. It is not an illness or disease, and is not considered a life-limiting condition.

Just like anyone else in the community, people with Down syndrome come will be unique individuals with varying personalities.

Mainstream education, employment, independent living, and relationships are what most people living with Down syndrome want and often achieve.

For a parent of a child living with Down syndrome, it's not as scary as you think, or what you might be told to expect.

**It's fun, it's different,
and it will be okay.**

Children with Down syndrome are also very similar to all children. They are involved with friends, school, sports and hobbies. There may be some additional supports they need in early childhood around health, schooling or emotions.



If you would like to speak to a parent or family who has a child living with Down syndrome, please complete this form so we can contact you and understand how we can best support you.

<https://prenatalscreening.org.au/support/>

References

Down Syndrome Queensland. (2022). Practice Resource – Prenatal Screening for Chromosomal Conditions including Down syndrome. <https://prenatalscreening.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Prenatal-Screening-Practice-Resource.pdf>

Down Syndrome Australia. (2021). About Down syndrome – Our Stories. <https://www.downsyndrome.org.au/about-down-syndrome/our-stories/>