

Making a person with disability feel welcome.



Tips to help make a person with disability feel welcome:



Inclusion means that all people, regardless of their ability, disability, or health care needs, have the right to be respected and appreciated as valuable members of your club. You can support people with disability who are new or existing at the club to feel more welcomed and included by using the power of progressive language and inclusive practices.



These handy actions are designed to help you be confident in communicating and welcoming a person with disability into your club.



1. Showcase people with disability.

Using a diverse range of images including people with disability on your website, social media, club newsletters, and marketing materials is a symbol to people with disability, carers and parents that the club is welcoming of all people. Ensure these images are genuine and not tokenistic.

2. 'Come and try' days.

Based on your disability and inclusion training, connect with other sporting clubs, schools and community groups to take part in 'come and try' and 'welcome days' encouraging people with disability living in the community to join the club. This can be as simple as having a 'come and try' session as part of your existing club days.

3. Implement a diversity and inclusion commitment.

All club community members should sign a diversity and inclusion commitment that encourages and welcomes people with diverse backgrounds like disability, gender, race, ethnicity or social orientation.

This is a strong symbol of inclusion.

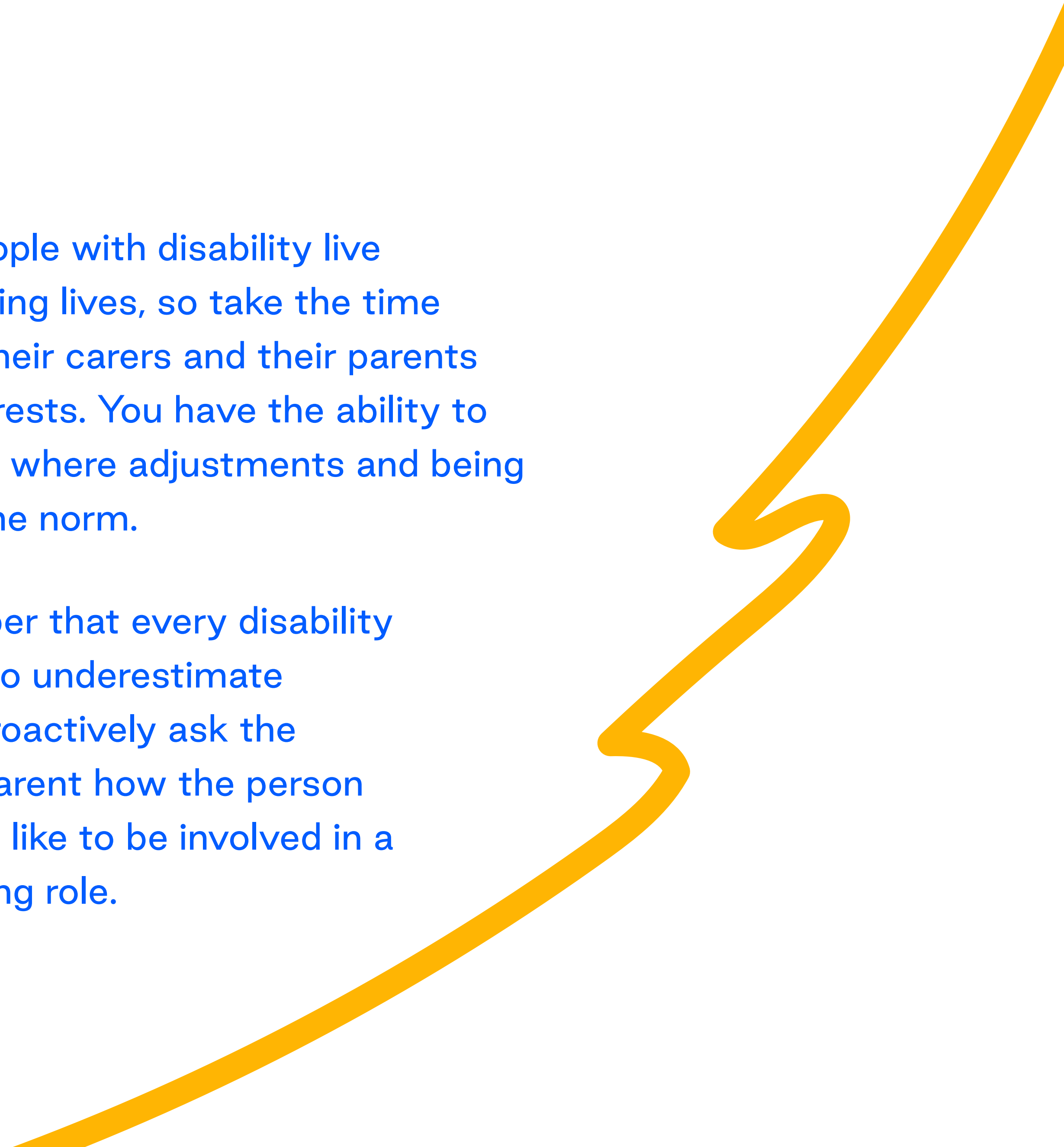


4. Take the time to get to know the person.

Just like anyone, people with disability live interesting and fulfilling lives, so take the time get to know them, their carers and their parents to find out their interests. You have the ability to create a club culture where adjustments and being flexible are part of the norm.

5. Don't make assumptions.

We need to remember that every disability is different and not to underestimate someone's ability. Proactively ask the individual, carer or parent how the person with disability would like to be involved in a playing or non-playing role.



6. Be flexible in your approach.

Actively encourage flexibility in how a person with disability wants to participate in a playing or non-playing role. You have the ability to create club culture where adjustments or flexibilities are a part of the norm.

7. Offer a tour of the club.

A personal tour of the club facilities is helpful when a new member or visitor comes to the club. You can proactively talk to and show them around the club pointing out accessible features. It's a great way to make someone with disability or accessibility requirements feel comfortable and welcomed in new surroundings.



8. Make introductions.

It's always a great feeling to be introduced to key members of the club to feel truly welcomed.

Even if you don't have a dedicated accessibility manager ensure that the new member gets connected with a go-to staff member to provide support in any questions, accessibility requirements and adjustments they may require.

9. Uniforms.

Nothing makes you feel more a part of the club than wearing the team uniform. Where possible, provide a uniform for all non-playing roles for people with disability to feel fully included and part of the team. This could even mean that you include non-players in the jumper ceremony.

10. Connect.



Consistently ask all club members, including people with disability, carers and parents to provide feedback to help continuously improve the club culture.





w. sport4all.com.au
e. info@sport4all.com.au
Facebook: [@Sport4AllAU](https://www.facebook.com/Sport4AllAU)
Instagram: [@sport4allau](https://www.instagram.com/sport4allau)