ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES



Psychology	Occupational Therapy
Social Work	Art Therapy
Dietetics	Speech Therapy

We can help with Psychological Therapy Disability Therapy Services Trauma-informed Therapy Child Behaviour

In-person, video and phone services available

Medicare Rebated Services Available. Ask us how.

GET IN TOUCH: Phone (08) 6214 0351 Fax 08 9463 1477 admin@auroraalliedhealth.com

What is **ADHD?**

A way of processing and responding to the world that is different to most people

"Different" is not *"bad*" different ≠ bad

It is normal – even advantageous – to have variations in the population

It means you may have different daily **challenges** and also different **strengths** to contribute



URORA

If you would like to explore this, call us (08) 6214 0351





 People with ADHD are <u>not</u> all the same
 each has unique strengths, struggles and personalities - but often relate to <u>many</u> of the following:

Common challenges:

- Easily distracted, difficulty staying on task
- May make 'careless' mistakes
- Tends to interrupt in conversation
- Impulsive
- Fidgeting, restless when having to sit still
- Multiple ideas or projects on the go, but often not completing them
- Organisation difficulty meeting deadlines, may forget appointments or misplace items

- Day-dreaming, 'losing track of time'
- Procrastinating
- "Time blindness" challenges with punctuality or estimating time
- Feeling overwhelmed
- Feeling strong hurt to real or perceived rejection
- Regulating emotions frustration, anger, or sadness may be more intensely felt or expressed

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ny of • When interested in something, you

- can focus intensely and be very committed
- Macro-thinking seeing the big picture
- Being chatty can help break-theice and invite others to share openly
- Spontaneous, fun and exciting
- Lots of energy, active, fast - can undertake big endeavours that require high energy
- 'Multi-tasking', or task-switching
- Visual organisers, good with visual information

Common strengths:

- Attempted many things in life, diverse life experiences
- Rich internal life
- Creative and novel
 ideas

- Unique skills and resilience built from overcoming challenges
- May feel pleasurable feelings more strongly - intense happiness, excitement, optimism, compassion
- Passionate, generous or making big efforts to help

Strategies:

Many people with ADHD find these strategies helpful:

- Good sleep helps regulate attention and emotion
- Exercise early in the day - may help with focus, restlessness or 'feeling on edge'
- More fresh food, less preservatives
- Write down <u>every</u> appointment <u>immediately</u>
- Use visual organisers, charts, bright Post-Its



- Have a fixed place for items - items used together, stay together
- If procrastinating or feeling overwhelmed -<u>break task down</u>,
 - do<u>least unpleasant</u> part first,
 - <u>- reward yourself</u> after completing each step
- Nature walks, guided meditation may be calming
- Various online apps available to help with daily challenges