aspect Community of Practice

Ed-Tech that works: practical innovation for Autistic students



Microsoft Head Office, North Sydney

27 November 2026

Statement of inclusion

Everybody is welcome here.

We want you to feel it is OK to be authentically yourself. Please let us know if there is anything we can do that helps to include you in the event.

Everyone is welcome to use their own strategies to help them feel relaxed.



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About the event

We are hosting a Community of Practice to bring together teachers from Public, Catholic and Independent schools, alongside academic and allied health professionals.

Our focus is on creating inclusive schools where Autistic students can thrive. Right now, many education systems are not well designed to support this. As more Autistic students learn in mainstream classrooms, teachers and families are looking for strategies that recognise strengths, reduce barriers and foster genuine inclusion.

A Community of Practice offers space for collaboration. It allows teachers, school leaders and others to share ideas, reflect on challenges and learn from one another. By connecting across schools and sectors, we can develop more inclusive practices than any of us could achieve alone, while also listening to and valuing the insights of Autistic people and their communities.



Getting to Microsoft Head Office

- There are lots of ways I can get to Microsoft Head Office, including by driving, train, bus, light rail, or walking from nearby stations.
- I should choose the way that is easiest and safest for me.
- I could drive and park at one of the nearby paid car parks, including Wilson Parking in North Sydney, just a short walk from Microsoft's office.
- It's okay to ask someone for help to decide the best way to get to the event.

I can type: Microsoft, Level 27, 1 Denison Street, North Sydney, NSW, 2060, into Google Maps to see where it is.

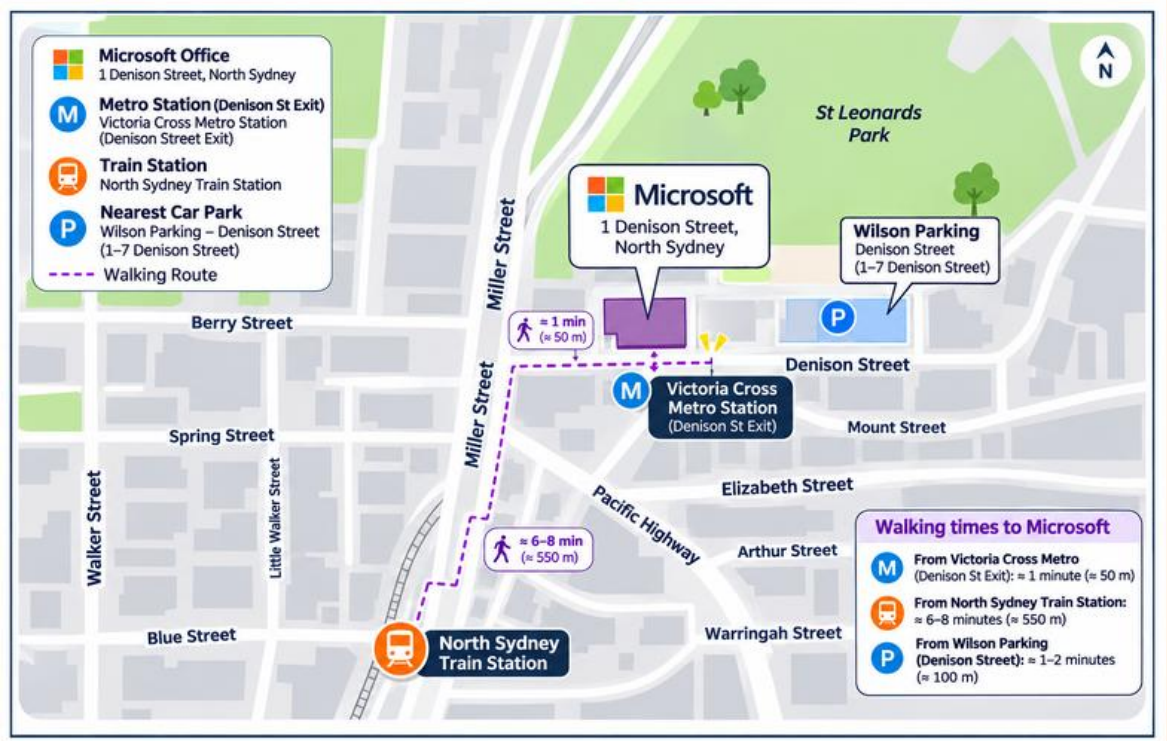


I can click this link if I'm using a device:

https://maps.app.goo.gl/aQTP41MMS5r3m6439

Public Transport

- I could take the Metro to Victoria Cross Station and come out at the Denison Street exit.
- I could take the Train to North Sydney Station and walk 6-8 minutes down Miller Street.
- I could get the bus that stops on Miller Street, near Victoria Cross Station.
- I can use https://transportnsw.info/ to help plan how I will get there.



Going inside Microsoft Head Office

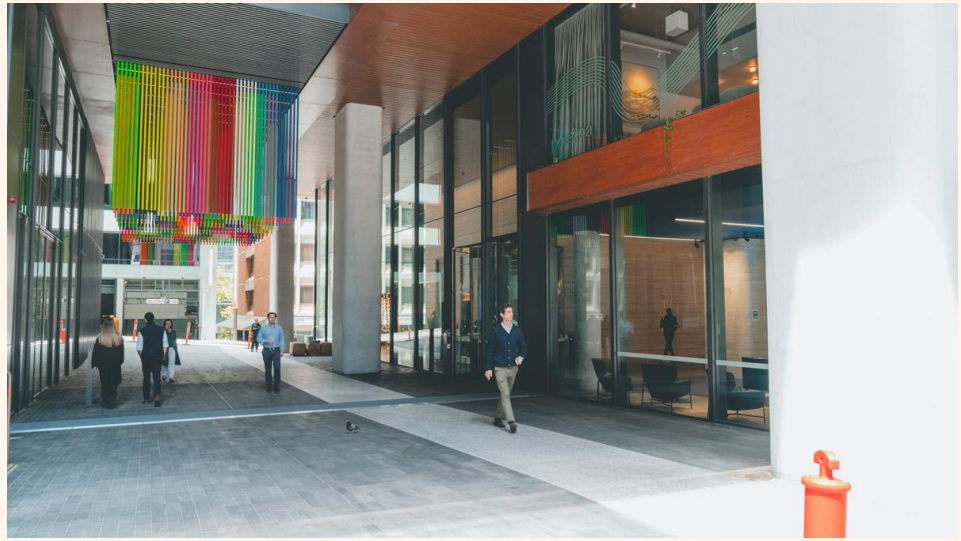
It's okay to feel nervous or excited before going to a new place.

I can ask someone for help if I don't know what to do or where to go.

I can wait until I feel ready to go inside, even if people are inside already.



I can enter the building from 1 Denison Street

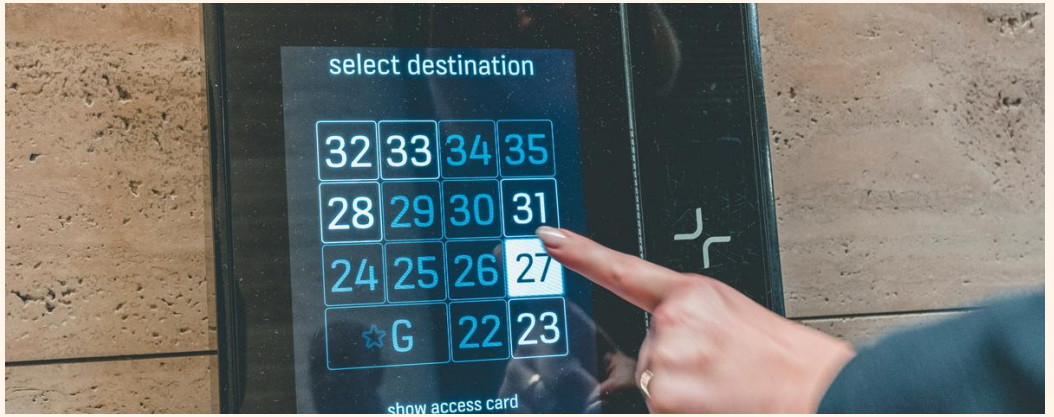


I can walk in between the buildings to find the entrance

Once inside the building



I can use the revolving door to walk into the lobby



I can walk through the lobby, find the lifts and select level 27 on the lift call panel. This is the floor Microsoft's office is on.

Entering the event



I will leave the lift on level 27.



The lift will take me to the office lobby.



I can register for the event in the lobby.



I can relax and get a drink in the lobby lounge before the event.

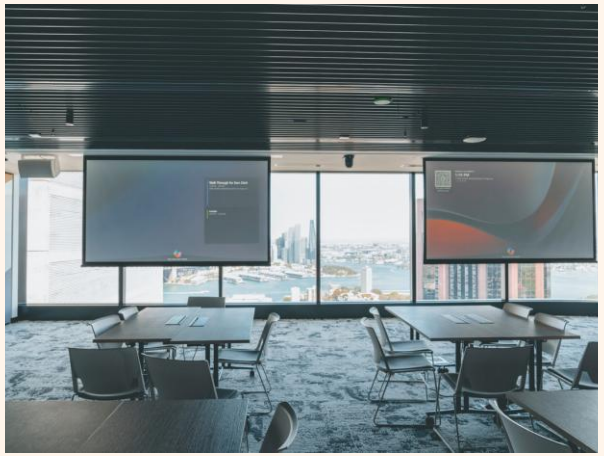
Going inside to the main event



I can enter the room where the event is being held, via these doors.

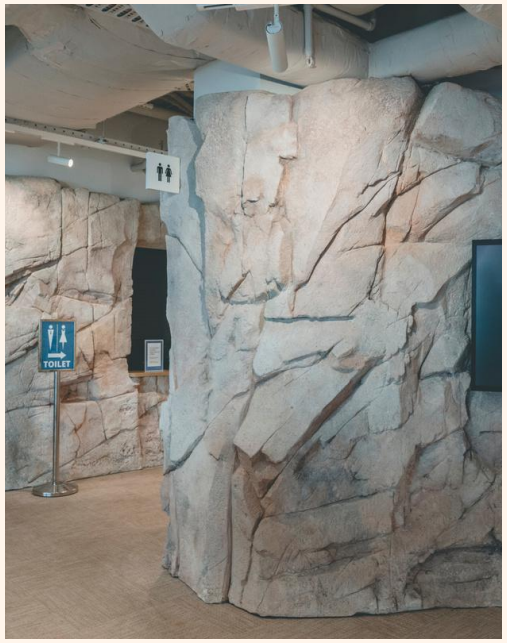


I can find my table number on the seating chart when registering.

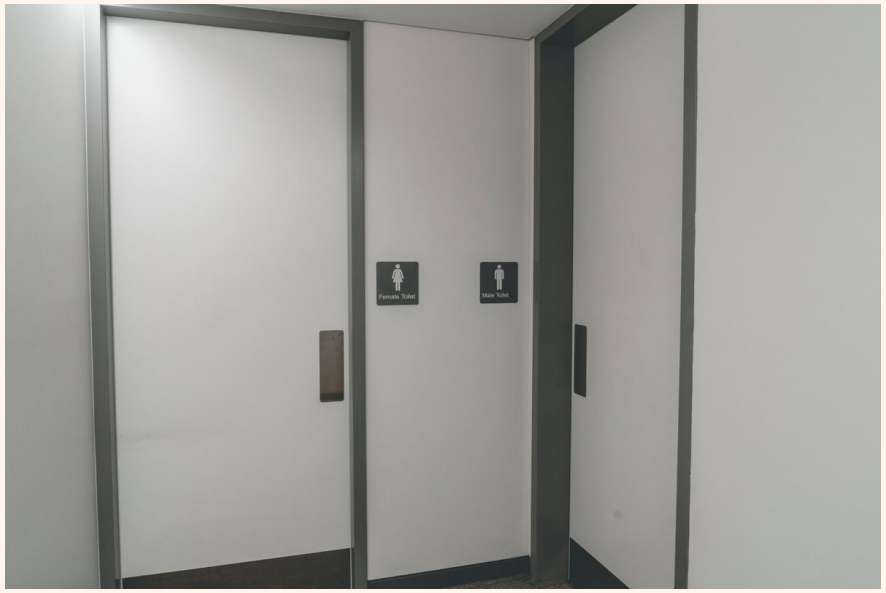


The speakers will share their slides on these big screens.

Toilets



I can use the bathrooms by the reception desk. I can use this toilet at anytime during the event.



The toilet

Quiet space

If I need some time out or a quiet space, I can use the quite room.

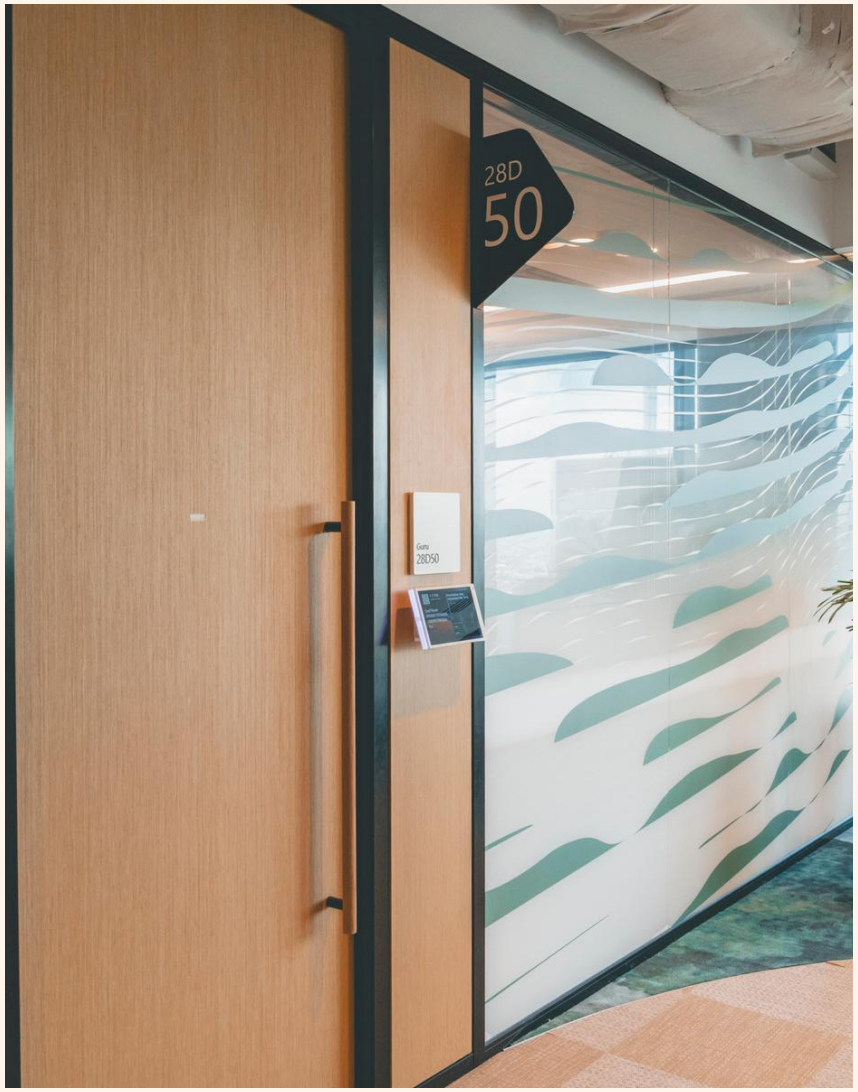


Photo consents

This event will be captured on video and photos and shared on the internet.

Please wear this wrist band to indicate you don't want to be captured.



Food and drinks

- There will be food and drinks for everyone.
- At 10:30am there will be morning tea. Coffee, tea and water will be available to drink.
- At 12:45 pm lunch will be served.
- People will stand while they talk, eat and drink with each other.
- I can eat morning tea and lunch.
- I don't have to eat morning tea or lunch if I do not want to.



Morning tea and lunch will be served in the lounge area outside the main event room.

Some of the people I may meet

Sam Clarke		National Private Education Lead at Microsoft ANZ
Dan Hart		CEO, CurricuLLM
Craig Smith		Technology & Innovation Manager, Positive Partnerships

Some of the people I may meet

Bethany Woodman 	Event MC
 Katie Fleet  Nicole Barrell  Nim Swaminathan	The organisers of the Community of Practice event Please ask them any questions you have
Sean Pickering 	Event Photographer

Some of the people I may meet

- There will be other people from Microsoft that will pop in and out during the Morning Tea.
- Aspect staff will be on hand to introduce me to them or to assist with any questions I may have.
- "People may want to talk with me about inclusion because they value my knowledge and want to hear my point of view. It's okay to only share what I am comfortable with, and to choose not to answer certain questions.



Other information – sensory experiences

During my visit to NSW Parliament House, I might have different sensory experiences. There will be:

- Very bright areas
- Very dark areas
- Long hallways
- Moving images or flashing lights on video screens and computers
- Calm, quiet areas
- Very loud areas
- People clapping
- Crowding
- Groups of people talking at the same time
- People talking with microphones through speakers Smells (such as food, drinks and perfumes)



What should I wear?

At events like this one, some people choose to wear clothes they may not wear every day. They might take extra time to clean and iron their clothes to look nice. I can too if this makes me feel good!

Some things people wear are:

- ✓ Trousers, a skirt or dress
- ✓ Button-up shirt or blouse
- ✓ Clean shoes or heels

What not to wear:

- ✗ No jeans
- ✗ No sneakers/runners







If I am unsure what to wear, I can contact kfleet@aspect.org.au

Leaving the event

- I will leave the event via the lift. I can take it to the ground floor.
- I will use the revolving door in the lobby to leave the event.
- I will be back on Denison Street.

