

User guide

Multi-tiered system of supports resources

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Nearly 1 in 5 Australian students starts secondary school at or below minimum standards for literacy or numeracy. This puts them at least 3 years behind their peers. When students struggle with literacy and numeracy, particularly at a foundational level, they can become disengaged and fall further behind their peers, making it difficult for them to catch up.

The Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) recommends the use of a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) to better assist Years 7 to 9 students struggling with foundational literacy and numeracy skills.

AERO has developed a suite of resources for secondary school leaders and teachers looking to use MTSS to better support Years 7 to 9 students struggling with foundational literacy and numeracy skills. The resources are designed to equip school leaders to effectively deliver an impactful and sustainable MTSS framework.

This user guide:

- explains AERO's MTSS resources
- recommends the most relevant resources for teachers and leaders depending on their responsibilities
- provides suggestions for their use.

Types of resources

AERO has produced 6 types of resources, which go into detail about different aspects of MTSS.

Evidence **explainers** use evidence to explain important topics and concepts related to supporting students struggling with foundational skills:

- [Introduction to a Multi-Tiered System of Supports](#) outlines the key features of MTSS and provides evidence to support the delivery of this approach.
- [Why Some Secondary Students Struggle With Reading](#) outlines the specific skills gaps and difficulties that cause secondary students to struggle with reading.

MTSS practice guides outline effective evidence-based practices when delivering MTSS, and help schools identify next steps in delivering MTSS effectively:

- [Using Assessments to Support an MTSS Framework](#)
- [Choosing Reading Assessments in MTSS](#)
- [Choosing, Monitoring and Modifying Reading Interventions in MTSS.](#)

MTSS practice resources provide practical guidance for implementing and building proficiency in delivering MTSS in schools:

- [Supporting Student Wellbeing and Engagement in MTSS](#)
- [MTSS Decision Tree](#)
- [Example Reading Assessment Tools in MTSS](#)
- [Example Interventions for Word Reading](#)
- [Example of Tier 2 Intervention for Subject-Specific Reading Comprehension.](#)

The **MTSS research report** on [designing a tiered interventions approach in schools](#) provides detailed evidence and information on setting up and resourcing an MTSS approach, including staffing, timetabling and intensity of intervention.

Our **video snapshots of practice** show how 7 schools in Australia have implemented MTSS

- [MTSS at Como Secondary College \(WA\)](#)
- [MTSS at Parramatta Marist High School \(NSW\)](#)
- [MTSS at Parafield Gardens High School \(SA\)](#)
- [MTSS at Craigmore High School \(SA\)](#)
- [MTSS at Mount Rowan Secondary College \(VIC\)](#)
- [MTSS at East Loddon P-12 \(VIC\)](#)
- [MTSS at Reece High School \(TAS\).](#)

The suite of **short, themed video snapshots** arrange the work of the 7 schools across multiple themes, showing how best practice can be delivered across multiple contexts:

- [Leading MTSS](#)
- [Building an Effective MTSS Team](#)
- [MTSS Timetabling and Intensity Decision-Making](#)
- [Using Data in MTSS: Screening](#)
- [Using Data in MTSS: Progress Monitoring](#)
- [Supporting Student and Community Buy-in for MTSS.](#)

How to use these resources

Different resources may be useful at different times, depending on your school's familiarity with MTSS.

To introduce MTSS

The following resources provide a general overview of an MTSS framework, focusing on **delivering MTSS** as a school-wide framework:

- [Introduction to a Multi-Tiered System of Supports \(Explainer\)](#)
- [Using Assessments to Support an MTSS Framework \(Practice Guide\)](#)
- [Supporting Student Wellbeing and Engagement in MTSS \(Practice Resource\)](#)
- [Supporting Student and Community Buy-in for MTSS \(Video\)](#)
- [MTSS at Como Secondary College \(WA\)](#)
- [MTSS at Parramatta Marist High School \(NSW\)](#)
- [MTSS at Parafield Gardens High School \(SA\)](#)
- [MTSS at Craigmore High School \(SA\)](#)
- [MTSS at Mount Rowan Secondary College \(VIC\)](#)
- [MTSS at East Loddon P-12 \(VIC\)](#)
- [MTSS at Reece High School \(TAS\).](#)

To operationalise MTSS

The following resources help leaders to **operationalise MTSS** in schools:

- [Designing an Intervention Approach: Making Staffing and Timetabling Decisions](#)
- [Leading MTSS \(Video\)](#)
- [Building an Effective MTSS Team \(Video\)](#)
- [MTSS Timetabling and Intensity Decision-Making \(Video\).](#)

To implement MTSS for reading instruction

AERO has developed a suite of guidance on **delivering reading MTSS** in secondary schools, in partnership with the Dyslexia-SPELD Foundation:

- [Why Some Secondary Students Struggle With Reading](#)
- [MTSS Decision Tree](#)
- [Choosing Reading Assessments in MTSS](#)
- [Example Reading Assessment Tools in MTSS](#)
- [Choosing, Monitoring and Modifying Reading Interventions in MTSS](#)
- [Using Data in MTSS: Screening \(Video\)](#)
- [Using Data in MTSS: Progress Monitoring \(Video\)](#)
- [Example Interventions for Word Reading](#)
- [Example of Tier 2 Intervention for Subject-Specific Reading Comprehension.](#)