AspieLand Moderated Minecraft - FAQ
(Frequently Asked Questions)

We’ve received quite a few questions over the last few programs of AspieLand, and we’re finding that some of them are quite similar. To help our AspieLand families to find answers quickly, we’ve put together this list of frequently asked questions.

We also have our AspieLand Tech Support Guide, and our AspieLand Rules. Both of these are available online in all of our AspieLand program event information pages, and we really recommend reading through both of these before your player joins the AspieLand server, especially if this is their first time joining AspieLand.

If you can’t find your question in this list, you’re most welcome to contact our admin team for assistance: please call or text 0480 385 710, or email admin@aspergersvic.org.au

About AspieLand

What is AspieLand?
AspieLand is a moderated Minecraft server run by Aspergers Victoria. AspieLand was created in October 2020 by our Aspie teen moderators with admin support from AV staff and funding courtesy of a grant from the Department of Education. In our pilot program, we had fourteen participants join the program for ten sessions over five weeks in Term 4, 2020. The program has grown a lot since then, and we’re now selling out sessions of 25 spaces and adding more groups!

What type of server is AspieLand?
AspieLand is a moderated survival-mode server with PVP disabled. AspieLand is also a private server using a whitelist, which means that only players who have registered for the program via the AV website and provided their username will be able to access the server. We update the whitelist of registered players each term, which means that only players whitelisted for the current term will be able to access the server. The AspieLand server is only available during advertised session times.

Who are the moderators?
The AspieLand moderators are teens and young adults from the AV community, who are all employed by AV as peers to help guide and support participants to build, remind what behaviour is appropriate and most importantly, have fun!

Can I join if I’ve never played Minecraft before?
Absolutely! We have a wide range of Minecraft skills in our player group - some are just starting, and some are more advanced and have been playing for a while. If you’re new, we encourage you to let our AV team know in your registration form, so we can let our moderators know to keep an eye out for you when you join the server, just in case you need help or if you’re feeling a bit unsure.
Can we stay in the same world from one program to the next?
We have several worlds within AspieLand, and these are linked to the AspieLand groups. If you have registered for Group 1, you will be in the two existing worlds. If you have registered for Group 2, you’ll be the first to explore the brand new world the moderators have created!

Can I keep my items from one program to the next?
If you’ve joined the AspieLand server before, you will be able to keep the items you have collected, however they will stay in the world they were created or collected in. If you have any items in your ender chest, you can use these throughout each program, however you’ll need to use them by the end of the last session - everything in ender chests gets reset at the end of each program. If you’re a new player, our moderators have put together a starter pack to help you in the first few sessions - you’ll get this automatically when you join the first session.

About the registration process

Do I have to be an AV member to register for AspieLand?
Yes, you do need to be an AV member to register for AspieLand. AspieLand is one of the many benefits of being an AV member! Other benefits include discounts to all of our groups and events, access to other member-only programs such as our Dungeons & Dragons program, our Teens Work Knowhow Program, and our coaching and employment support programs, as well as receiving the AV Newsletter each month and the ability to shape the future of AV by voting at our AGM. Membership starts at $50 per year for individuals, and you can find more information about AV membership via our website.

My player really wants to join, but they're not yet old enough. Can they still join?
Unfortunately, we do need to keep the minimum age of AspieLand players at 10 years of age as of the first session. Please keep checking though, as they would be most welcome to join as soon as they’re old enough.

My player wants to join AspieLand, but they can only attend one of the sessions and can't attend at all on one day. Can they join and only attend for some sessions?
Of course! If your player would like to join one of the AspieLand groups but can’t attend every day, we would be happy to talk to you about an arrangement that suits you. Please contact our admin team to talk to us about this before you register: please call or text 0480 385 710, or email admin@aspergersvic.org.au

My player wants to join AspieLand, but the program has already started. Can they still register to join AspieLand?
Of course! If you would like to join an AspieLand group after the program has started and if there’s still space, we would be happy to talk to you about an arrangement that suits you. Please contact our
admin team to talk to us about this before you register: please call or text 0480 385 710, or email admin@aspergersvic.org.au

Can I join a session late, or leave early?
Of course! If you’re running late for a session, or if you need to leave early, you’re welcome to do that. You can let our team know if you would like to, or you can just come and go as it suits you.

How can I make sure that I’m in the same group as my friend?
The best way to do this is to chat to your friend and their parent or carer to find a session that suits both of you. It’s a good idea to do this before the program opens for registration, or very soon after registrations open.
Once registrations are open, you’ll need to both register early for the same group to make sure you both get a space in the same group.

If I’ve already registered, can I change groups to be in the same group as my friend?
We understand that many players would like to be in the same group as their friends. Unfortunately, once you’ve registered for a particular group, it’s generally not possible to move players around from one group to another.
You’re welcome to join the waitlist for the group if you would like to if the group you would like to be in is fully booked. If a space becomes available, we will offer that space to those on the waiting list in the order that they registered, but rather than this, we would recommend joining another group to avoid missing out altogether for that term.

Can my friend join AspieLand?
Yes, of course! If they’re an AV member and they’re aged between 10 and 17, they’re welcome to join. As the AV Minecraft Program is a member benefit, your friend will need to sign up as an AV member if they haven’t yet. It’s really easy and can be done online: as soon as they’ve signed up as an AV member, they can go to the AspieLand program page and register for the next program.

In AspieLand

What do you do in Minecraft?
Minecraft is one of gaming’s greatest sandboxes. It’s an amazing and compelling experience just exploring, crafting and building things in this world. In Minecraft, there are two main game modes: Survival and Creative. AspieLand is a survival mode server: the goal is to survive. Players appear in a new world and are challenged to use its resources to build shelter, find food, and craft tools to help them construct the universe they want to live in. From time to time, our moderators invite players to join them in a team or community build, where multiple players work together to build something as a group - it’s really great to see this, and if this opportunity comes up while you’re in AspieLand, definitely join in, as it’s a great way to meet other players and to potentially make friends!

What are the AspieLand rules?
The AspieLand rules have been put together by our moderators from their experience as players and as moderators, and with support from AV staff. They’re available on the AV website in all of our Minecraft program registration pages.

What can I do if I'm new and I don't know anyone?
We really understand that it can be a little scary to join a group for the first time, especially if you don’t know anyone. Our moderators are really fantastic though, and they’re very welcoming of new players. If you’re feeling shy and aren’t sure where to start or what to do, you’re welcome to type /helppop in the chat and ask them to help you.

How do players communicate with each other in AspieLand?
AspieLand has a chat function built into the Minecraft server. Players can communicate with each other by typing messages to each other in the chat, as well as by building signs to display around their property or on items they’ve made (there is currently no voice or video chat function within AspieLand). Players can also send private messages to the moderators if they need help or would like to talk to a moderator directly.
Private messages between a player and a moderator aren’t visible to other players, but our moderators and admin team can see all of the public and private messages in AspieLand, as well as messages posted on signs and buildings.

How can I contact someone I know in AspieLand in real life?
That’s great that you’d like to connect with another AspieLand player in real life!
It’s important for your privacy and security that you don’t share your real name, phone number, email address, or other personal details such as social media usernames in the AspieLand chat.
If you would like to connect with another AspieLand player, please make sure you know the other player’s name, then please ask your parent or carer to contact admin. Our admin team will then forward your parent or carer’s contact details to the other player’s parent or carer for both families to contact each other.

Tech support

Which edition of Minecraft do I need to be able to access AspieLand?
AspieLand is only accessible via Minecraft: Java Edition. If you don't yet have this, you will need to purchase this from the Minecraft website. We recommend doing this and familiarising yourself with this before your first session so your first session is as smooth as possible.
You will need a computer running Windows, Mac iOS or Linux.
AspieLand is not compatible with other editions of Minecraft, including but not limited to Minecraft for Windows, Minecraft for Mobile Devices, Minecraft for Xbox, etc.

Can I connect to AspieLand via an XBox, an iPad, or other device?
No, AspieLand is only accessible via Minecraft: Java Edition on a computer running Windows, Mac iOS, or Linux.
Do I need a special keyboard or mouse or headset?
No, you can use your regular keyboard, mouse, and headset in AspieLand.

What can I do if I'm having trouble connecting to the game?
We've put together an AspieLand Tech Support Guide to help returning players as well as new players connect to AspieLand easily. We're finding that this resolves most of the connection issues our players experience.
If you've worked through all of the suggestions and are still having trouble connecting, please contact our admin team for assistance: please call or text 0480 385 710, or email admin@aspergersvic.org.au

NDIS

Can I get my AV membership or AspieLand registration fee covered under my NDIS plan?
We've heard from some of our current and previous players that they have been able to have their AV membership or AspieLand registration fee covered under their NDIS plan, which is fantastic!
However, we've also heard that others have not been successful with these requests.

Our recommendation is to contact your NDIS provider and talk to them about AspieLand and AV membership before signing up. They will be able to give you more information about what your plan covers, what you may be eligible for, and how to go about this.

If you need an invoice for your NDIS provider, please contact our admin team for assistance: please call or text 0480 385 710, or email admin@aspergersvic.org.au

Other questions

What can I do if I have questions that aren't included here, or if I have feedback about AspieLand or AV?
If you still have questions or would like to give us some feedback about AspieLand, you're most welcome to contact our admin team: you can call or text 0480 385 710, or you can email admin@aspergersvic.org.au