

24 June 2011



Legislative Council
Standing Committee on Social Issues

**TRANSITIONAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH ADDITIONAL
OR COMPLEX NEEDS**

New Inquiry to examine transitional support offered to students and their families

The adequacy and accessibility of transitional support for students with additional or complex needs will be among issues examined in a new inquiry announced today by the Standing Committee on Social Issues.

This inquiry is the first to be conducted by the Committee since the state election on 26 March 2011. Referred to the Committee by the Hon. Adrian Piccoli MP, Minister for Education on 21 June 2011, the inquiry will examine support mechanisms currently in place for students progressing through the different stages of their education, as well as the support offered to their families.

The Committee is currently calling on submissions from interested parties, with a closing date of Friday, 12 August 2011. A report is expected by 22 November 2011.

"We want to look at best practice to ensure seamless and streamlined assistance for children and their families," said Chair of the Committee, the Hon Niall Blair MLC.

"On behalf of the Committee I'd like to encourage all interested people and organisations across NSW to contribute to this important inquiry. We particularly welcome participation from students and their families."

For further information about the inquiry, including guidelines for making a submission and copies of the terms of reference, please visit the NSW Parliament website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/socialissues or contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 9230 2412.

A full copy of the terms of reference is attached to this release.

For further comment please contact the Hon Niall Blair MLC

Committee Chair, on (02) 9230 2850

MEDIA RELEASE



Inquiry into transition support for students with additional or complex needs and their families

Terms of Reference

That the Standing Committee on Social Issues inquire into and report on programs and services for children with additional and/or complex needs and their families during transitions between stages of education, and in particular:

1. the adequacy and accessibility of appropriate support for children and their families;
2. best practice approaches to ensure seamless and streamlined assistance during transitions; and,
3. any other related matters.

Committee membership

The Hon Niall Blair MLC	The Nationals	<i>(Chair)</i>
The Hon Helen Westwood MLC	Australian Labor Party	<i>(Deputy Chair)</i>
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens	
The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC	Liberal Party	