

Submission
No 92

**INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION TO
STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR SPECIAL NEEDS**

Name: Name Suppressed

Date received: 12/02/2010

Partially Confidential

**NSW LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION TO STUDENTS
WITH A DISABILITY OR SPECIAL NEEDS****SUBMISSION**

The Inquiry is requesting submissions from the public that address some or all of the following terms of reference. You are invited to detail your views, examples and recommendations for improvement in the spaces provided (*copy additional forms if more space is required*):

NB: Not all terms of reference need be addressed.

1. The nature, level and adequacy of funding for the education of children with a disability.

Funding is in many cases insufficient to provide the amount of support required to assist some children to more readily access the curriculum.

2. Best practice approaches in determining the allocation of funding to children with a disability, particularly whether allocation should be focused on a student's functioning capacity rather than their disability.

If a child with Down Syndrome is in the IM range they do not attract any funding unless their parents appeal on a yearly basis and yet for such a child, the gap widens with each year. Having to appeal on a yearly basis is extremely frustrating and stressful for the parents.

3. The level and adequacy of current special education places within the education system.

4. The adequacy of integrated support services for children with a disability in mainstream settings, such as school classrooms.

5. The provision of a suitable curriculum for intellectually disabled and conduct disordered students.

6. Student and family access to professional support and services, such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and school counsellors.

There are insufficient school counsellors in schools. In cases where a school has a number of students with special needs they take priority with the counsellors and associated support agencies.

7. The provision of adequate teaching training, both in terms of pre-service and ongoing professional training.

There is a greater need for both pre-service + ongoing training to assist teachers to better meet the needs of students.

8. Any other related matters.

Send your submission to:

The Director
General Purpose Standing
Committee No. 2
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Email: gpscho2@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Online: www.nswlf.org.au and click on
Special Education Inquiry