

Submission
No 52

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

Name: Ms Rebecca Wheeler

Date received: 4/02/2010

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Rebecca Wheeler
I am 30 yrs old and have 2 children.
My oldest child is now 8 yrs old, at
birth we noticed things were different,
my son was later diagnosed with
Moebius Syndrome which is lack of
facial expressions, low upper muscle
tone, born with a club foot, has 4 eye
surgeries to correct his turned eyes,
has hardly no speech and we now
catheterise through his belly button 4 or
more times a day to take out the excess
urine.

My son is improving more and
more, but he will never be like a
normal child his age.

My first fight started 2 yrs ago
when he was ready to start
school. I finally got him funding

for a teachers aide and he is going really well. Now 2yrs on and I'm told the government is trying to change all the rules, and in our school, its already happening Aides losing jobs or hours and its being left to 1 aide to look after 20 or more children that is qualified for funding in our school. while my son and his old teachers hard work go down the drain, cause he has no aide with him hardly, WHY should I send him to school.

We need these aides they are essential to not only my child but every other child that not only has a disability but children that are falling through the cracks.

If my son dose not have a aide while he is a school, There is NO use me sending him at all, due to them catheterising him 2x at school and while in class if the aide is away not much gets done
ng a.

due to him getting side tracked, not being able to keep up and his writing can take a while, so he needs that 1 on 1 to keep him on track and be there to repeat what's going on where necessary. He is also a OHS issue, due to his low muscle tone, he can trip and fall easily and is and has been for the last 2 yrs a target for bullying.


My recommendations would be that all schools have aides in every classroom whether there is a child that has funding or not because if you don't when these kids are old enough to leave school and get a job, they won't be able to because they won't have the skills (language & maths) to get somewhere in life.

I hope you start to listen and take notes.

These kids are our future
Pg 3.

and you are taking a vital
Support off them.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Wheeler.