

Submission  
No 67

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

**Name:** Mr Chris Symes

**Position:** Teacher

**Date received:** 10/02/2010

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## NSW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL 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.

Lack of adequate funding for special information technology such as smartboards, touch screens etc. Teachers have to prove that funding is needed when many large faculties have more power to excess funds.

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.

Funding should follow students where they go. Seems to work well.

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

Good - it appears that most students are catered for generally. Will always be gaps in the system.

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

I believe the current provision of support classes (1.0/1.5.) in mainstream high schools is excellent. Both mainstream students + special education students benefit from such a program. Special ed. teachers also benefit by being in a whole school integrated setting. Student outcomes in behavioral, independence + academic are enhanced considerably.

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

Needs to be updated. Very verbose & 'arty farty'  
Needs to be more teacher friendly, with sites  
allowing downloads of outcomes & reporting.  
Does not address computer technology enough.

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

Some get lots of support while others miss out.  
'Hit + miss'

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

Adequate, but should be more practical &  
interesting

8. Any other related matters.

Name: C. Syme

Address:

Telephone No.:

Date: 10/2/10

(Please tick)

<input type="checkbox"/> Parent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teacher
<input type="checkbox"/> Principal	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)

If you are making a submission on behalf of an organisation, please indicate who has authorised it, for example, the executive committee, president or chairperson.

Organisation:

Authorised by:

Send your submission to:

The Director  
General Purpose Standing  
Committee No. 2  
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Fax: (02) 9230 3416

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Special Education Inquiry