

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

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Thankyou for this opportunity. Two main points.

1. Please avoid treating all disabled children the same and
  2. Please reinstate the one on one special needs support that has been taken away from schools.
- Our grandson Lachlan is 9 years old. He is recovering from retinoblastoma (eye cancer) and has recently been diagnosed as autistic and having as yet undefined brain disorders. He has lost one eye from the cancer. He will require ongoing support throughout his life and he is at high risk of getting a secondary cancer in his teenage years.

This year the Dept took away the meagre 2 hours support perday and replaced it with 20 minutes. This was devastating for all the family. How can a child advance in life with only 20 minutes support a day ? SPECIAL NEEDS TEACHING IS A SPECIALIST TASK NOT AN ADMINISTRATIVE ONE.

The current system of rewarding (funding)special needs classes is unfair.Funding on the basis of success is not the sole criteria that should be applied.

John Urquhart