

**INQUIRY INTO STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR
SPECIAL NEEDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES SCHOOLS**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential



As public school teachers and NSW Teachers Federation members we continue to campaign for the right of every student to receive a public education of the highest quality and for all students to become successful learners.

We are committed to equity and excellence for every student and in doing so assert, as was confirmed in The Review of Funding for Schooling (Gonski Review) that it costs more to deliver on these values for students with disability.

We will not stand by the currently inadequate provision of education to students with disability and the lifelong implications this inequity has.

The National Education Reform Agreement (NERA) and Australian Education Act 2013, acknowledge the requirement for, and commitment to additional funds for students with disability. The NSW government's unwavering commitment to the Gonski funding model paves the way for this investment to be realised.

We stand ready to work with our employer and NSW government in delivering equitable quality education but can only do so effectively when equipped with the necessary tools and supported by a system that is responsive to need.

We offer the following submission as an index of unmet need and a call for equity for every student.

A) Equitable access to resources for students with a disability or special needs in regional and metropolitan areas.

It might be equitable but it is not nearly enough! There is not/no support for students with behavioural problems such as autism, ADHD, ADD, anxiety, etc. If students can't do the work due to their behaviour- they can't learn. However, with ongoing consistent support- they do! This means less ongoing support required in their adult life and less societal problems. Also, their behaviour disrupts the whole class's learning.

B) The impact of the Government's 'Every Student Every School' policy on the provision of education to students with a disability or special needs in New South Wales public schools.

No different to before. Schools need more money for teachers aids and learning support teachers!!!! Even worse, as the department doesn't recognise that dyslexia, ADHD and autism are a disability and therefore there is not enough money to support them.

C) Developments since the 2010 inquiry by General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 into the provision of education to students with a disability or special needs and the implementation of its recommendations.

I can't see any improvements.

D) Complaint and review mechanisms within the school systems in New South Wales for parents and carers.

If there is a complaint they still go to the teacher and then the principal- what's new?

E) Any other related matters.

Smaller student numbers to teacher ratios makes the greatest difference and more RFF time for teachers to plan lessons and follow through with all the extra things that haS been dumped on teachers/schools.