

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date received:** 6 February 2017

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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.**

I have 2 disabled children of my own as well as having taught countless disabled students in my teaching career. They deserve equal and adequate access to the curriculum and also SLSO time to be increased. It is a disgrace that we have to practically beg for more funding and students across the board are suffering as a result of underfunding and this also causes needless stress for all concerned.

**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.**

I am a teacher and have been waiting for more than 17 years for a permanent job with NSW DEC. I have held roles in schools on a temporary basis for 7 years and 9 years each with casual work in between. You have thousands of teachers in the same position as me! How about we employ all the teachers like me, who are obviously GREAT at their jobs, make classw sizes smaller, increase SLSO time for students with a disability and see how things change dramatically.

**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'm not really seeing it to be honest. Nothing changes if nothing changes.

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

Once again, caught in red tape, going around and around in circles and nothing actually gets done to FIX the problem.

**E) Any other related matters.**
