

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

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Date received: 18/02/2016

PLEASE roll out the GONSKI model to all schools as a matter of URGENCY. I am the parent of a 12 year old boy with an intellectual disability AND severe Autism. Our family and ALL families like us need specialist teachers who are trained to understand the way these children learn to give them maximum opportunity for becoming independent, productive and contributing members in our society. Teachers who teach students like my son also need the support of extra specialist staff to assist in facilitating their classroom learning as well as supporting them with accessing our community and giving them the daily life skills required to become independent contributors to our society, by the time they are ready to leave school. By doing this, these students will hopefully be less reliant on the system in their adult life. There is NO TIME to waste with children like mine. Please do not let them fall through the cracks. They are very capable, proud, enthusiastic individuals that can do so much for our country if given the right tools to learn and move forward in life. DON'T WASTE TIME & PLEASE DON'T FAIL THEM. PLEASE DON'T..