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

Name: Name suppressed

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The implementation of ESES has not enhanced access to:

- Specialist support for students with disability
- Resources for students with high or complex additional learning and support needs
- Expert support and consistent, reliable information for school leaders, teachers and parents about identifying and supporting the educational needs of students with disability

The Department's principles for using RAM equity funding for students requiring low level adjustment for disability has meant that there are inadequate resources to:

- improve student outcomes to the best of their individual abilities
- meet obligations to students under the Commonwealth Disability Standards for Education 2005
- to raise the expectations of students, teachers, executive, parents and carers and school communities
- to strengthen partnerships between schools and parents and carers
- to increase levels of student participation and engagement in learning
- to develop and sustain a positive and welcoming school culture for every student, including those students with disability and additional learning and support needs, and their parents and carers
- to improve the quality of teaching and learning for every student by providing resources to meet their educational needs
- to enhance specialist provisions available in every school
- to improve access to timely specialist support for students and their teachers within schools
- to promote recognition and understanding of the rights of students with disability and the obligations of teachers and schools toward students and their parents and carers.