



Disability Royal Commission

Australian Government Response:

Volume 7a

Inclusive Education

Volume 7a examines overcoming barriers to safe, quality and inclusive education. It includes 15 recommendations, 10 of which are within the Australian Government's primary or shared responsibility.

| Inclusive Education | |
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| Recommendation | Australian Government Response |
| 7.2: Prevent the inappropriate use of exclusionary discipline against students with disability | Accept in principle |
| 7.3: Improve policies and procedures on the provision of reasonable adjustments to students with disability | Accept in principle |
| 7.6: Student and parental communication and relationships | Accept in principle |
| 7.8: Workforce capabilities, expertise and development | Accept in principle |
| 7.9: Data, evidence and building best practice | Accept in principle |
| 7.10: Complaint management | Accept in principle |
| 7.12: Improving funding | Accept in principle |
| 7.13: National Roadmap to Inclusive Education | Accept in principle |
| 7.14: Phasing out and ending special/segregated education | Note |
| 7.15: An alternative approach | Note |

Key actions and initiatives

The Commonwealth Department of Education will commence work to inform national system reforms to drive more accessible and inclusive school education and improve outcomes for students with disability.

The Australian Government has produced resources to support students with disability and their parents and carers to understand and exercise their rights. This includes practical and easy-to-use products co-designed with young people with disability and their families with the help of Children and Young People with Disability Australia.

Considerable progress has occurred in relation to the recommendations aimed at workforce capability and expertise and strengthened complaints management practices as part of the National Teacher Workforce Action Plan and the review of the Disability Standards for Education 2005 Review undertaken in 2020. The Government has developed resources to support teachers and school leaders to better understand and apply their obligations under the Standards.

The Government also funds the Positive Partnerships program which provides professional development for teachers, principals, and other school staff to build their understanding, skills, and experience in working with children and young people on the autism spectrum.

Through the Higher Education Disability Support Program, the Government provides funding to assist universities to support students with disability. Universities may use this funding for staff training, to better support students with disability, and to modify course content, teaching materials and delivery methods to better meet the needs of students with disability.

Government investment

- The Australian Government is providing an estimated **\$3.7 billion** in 2024 to support schools to implement reasonable adjustments through the Schooling Resource Standard students with disability loading.