



# HUMAN RIGHTS & DISCRIMINATION COMMISSIONER

Ms Amanda Bresnan MLA  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
GPO Box 1020  
Canberra ACT 2601



Dear Ms Bresnan

## Needs of ACT Students with Disabilities

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs regarding your inquiry into Needs of ACT Students with Disabilities.

During my appearance, I committed to providing the Committee details of the number of enquiries the Commission had received in the 2009/10 financial year regarding disability discrimination in the area of education.

It is difficult for the Commission to provide definitive data on the number of enquiries regarding disability in the area of education, as often the exact ground and area of a complaint will not be known until a written complaint form is submitted. Based on the information provided to our enquiries officers, 9 people enquired about disability discrimination related to education in 2009/10. Of these, not all were directly relevant to the provision of education in a school:

- 2 were in relation to tertiary education
- 1 was in relation to transport to and from school
- 2 were in relation to after-school programs
- 1 was in relation to childcare.

The remaining 3 were in relation to discrimination in a school environment.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Dr Helen Watchirs  
Human Rights and Discrimination Commissioner  
29 July 2010