

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability in 2015

Dear parent/carer,

Our school is taking part in the nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability ('the Collection').

The Collection is aimed at providing all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students with disability in schools and the adjustments they require to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students. The implementation of the Collection is being phased in over a three year period. The first data collection occurred in 2013 and the final phase will occur in 2015. After implementation the Collection will become an annual process for schools.

The data collection will involve the collection of the following information:

- the number of students receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students;
- the level of adjustment provided to students; and
- where known, the student's type of disability.

Under the Collection model the definition of disability is broad and includes learning difficulties, health conditions and mental health illnesses.

Once the data has been collated, it will be de-identified and grouped at the system level (ie Primary, Secondary, Special and Combined school setting) before providing it to the Australian Government Department of Education. This ensures that no student's identity can be ascertained.

The data will be used by our school to inform and improve practice for students with disability and by the Department for Education and Child Development to inform state-wide reform initiatives. The Australian Government Department of Education will use the information collected to inform national policy development.

Involvement in the Collection is optional.

If you do not want our school to provide de-identified data about your child to the Australian Government Department of Education, you can 'opt-out' by completing and returning the attached opt-out form to the school or contacting the school on the number below.

If you do not advise you wish to opt-out, and your child is identified for inclusion in the Collection, the required information about your child will be included in the 2015 data collection.

If you have any questions about the 2015 data collection please contact [insert contact person at school] on [insert phone number]. Further information about the Collection can be found at: <http://www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>.

John Clarke
Principal

I have read the letter in relation to the 2015 nationally consistent collection of data for school students with disability and request that information is not to be collected on:

(Student's name) _____

Full name of
parent/guardian: _____