

Committee Secretary  
Senate Select Committee on School Funding  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia

## Submission to the Senate Select Committee on School Funding

I'm a special education / early childhood teacher currently working in early intervention. I have worked on the Gold Coast and many Wide Bay schools as a relief, contract and permanent teacher in the roles of both special educator and general classroom educator.

More specialist support and critical resources for the increasing number of students with disabilities, attention deficit disorders and learning difficulties (particularly speech, literacy, numeracy, physical and disability-specific programming options eg. Small group lessons, access to technology for learning).

Additional literacy and numeracy support and resources for students of low socioeconomic background. The debilitating effects of poverty extend into school results and school work and the academic results of students from poor families are hugely behind their peers (2-3 years!). This support would be beneficial in the form of technology resources, literacy and numeracy teachers engaging in small group streamlined instruction / 'catch-up' sessions to take place during general class literacy and numeracy sessions. A tutoring program during lunch/before school/after school for students left behind provided by specifically employed literacy and numeracy teachers (early childhood trained teachers would be most beneficial as they have been trained specifically in teaching pre- and early reading skills).

Submitted by Casey Kelly, Teacher regarding Wide Bay schools, particularly Norville State School  
Friday 14 March 2014