

Dear Sir/ Madam

I'm writing in response to funding in n.s.w, local government schools. My daughter has received funding on and off over the last 6 years in the primary school sector. With her disability first diagnosed she did not qualify due to the disability did not fit in a box (Chemical sensitivity and food allergy). In which case my daughter could not participate fully in the classroom Eg gluing, painting, maintenance, sport and some special days in which the school have. If she received adequate funding eg aide she may have been able to attend another school instead of missing out for weeks at a time. Which is still continuing. My concern lays with the fact that each case should be merited on the individual needs for inclusion into school activities as my daughter has missed a lot of her education in which she will never receive. I am also aware that she does not qualify in special schools eg.I.Q. Therefore the mainstream school has to meet her needs this has caused her great amount of stress for her and for the school.

When you apply for integration you must supply all medical reports documentation etc. I totally agree with this and you as the parents sign. Once the funding has been granted you are not told of the amount or to what resources or training that has been given to the teachers or aide on behalf of your child. I personally believe that if the funding has been given then the parents should receive notice of the amount and how the school spend it with consultation with the parents. Back to where it was on the individual and accounted for just as the parents are when providing medical information. As sometimes the aide time is pooled and then given to children with no funding after all the chasing you do as a parent to receive the funding and never enough this is very disappointing. Also the funding should be in two years as some conditions or disabilities do not change. Also there needs to be information as to how to re-apply if you do not receive the funding or believe there was not enough allocated.If the education and social skills are being disadvantage then the system needs a change as in my daughters case. Maybe a team that comes to the school and sees where the funding would help a child and what training the staff need then a scale made up to what level in which the child is graded the funds. Then reviews the case every 6 months.This would be in consultation with staff and parents as the childs needs is the priority.

Thankyou for your time  
Hope this information is useful.  
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