

Media Release

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Independent sector says recommendations of Disability Standards for Education Review will benefit students with disability, families and schools

Independent Schools Australia has welcomed the Final Report of the 2020 Review of the *Disability Standards for Education 2005* saying that the recommendations of the review will benefit all stakeholders including students with disability, their families and schools, as well as other education providers.

“The Independent sector has seen significant growth in the numbers of students with disability enrolled in their schools with students with disability now making up 19% of Independent sector enrolments,” said Independent Schools Australia Chief Executive Officer. Margery Evans.

“The Disability Standards for Education play a key role in ensuring that students with disability can access and participate in education in the same way as students without a disability. The report’s focus on providing additional information and clarity for all stakeholders is applauded by the Independent school sector,” she said.

The provision of more information to Early Childhood Education and Care providers as well as the report’s focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students was also welcomed by Ms Evans. “Ensuring that all education providers and all students with disability can benefit from the guidance contained in the Standards is a positive step forward,” she said.

In 2020 there were 124,992 students with disability enrolled in Independent schools which reflects the sector’s overall total enrolment share. Most of these students attend mainstream Independent schools although more than 10,859 attend one of the 130 special schools in the sector.

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