



MEDIA RELEASE

Amanda Rishworth MP
Federal Member for Kingston

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Education Disability Standards Review Underway

The Gillard Labor Government is taking action to help remove barriers to educational achievement, with a review of Disability Standards for Education.

Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston said a discussion paper has been released inviting submissions to the review to help better enable people with disability to achieve their full potential.

Ms Rishworth said “All students, regardless of their personal or social situations, deserve access to the best education.

“The Disability Standards for Education have been in place for five years and it’s time we looked at their effectiveness in giving those with disability every opportunity to succeed in the education system.

“This discussion paper will help us determine how effective the Standards are in practice, and whether they need to be amended.

“These Standards are designed to assist people with disability to access and participate in education and training opportunities and help eliminate discrimination in education and training.”

Ms Rishworth said school students with disability have increased as a percentage of the total school population. In 2009 there were over 164,000 students with disabilities in Australian schools that received support by education authorities.

“I encourage people with an interest in improving the education and training experience for people with disability to make a submission to the Review,” said Ms Rishworth.

The Gillard Government is also conducting a broader Review of Funding for Schooling, which is examining all funding to all schools, including funding allocations to ensure students with disability can access a quality education.

Information on the review, including the discussion paper, is available at www.deewr.gov.au/DSEReview.