

Appendix 2

Some of the key recommendations of the report on disability discrimination in schools.ⁱ

- Principals should facilitate the training of their staff in disability discrimination law.
- Disability modules introduced in to the curriculum.
- Presumption of enrolment of all students unless the school can justify why they cannot enrol the student.
- Needs assessment and planning should be undertaken as soon as possible after enrolment.
- Schools should ensure that students with a disability are not excluded from any part of the school program and encourage students without a disability to accept those who have.
- Schools should promote a partnership approach with the parents and students.
- Meetings between parents and staff should be conducted in a cooperative way.
- There should be no threat of legal action against parents who have complained about their treatment in schools. School authorities should assist parents in allocating sufficient resources to meet the needs of students.
- State and Territory Departments should require that every school have copies of the relevant anti-discrimination laws.
- Education programs on the laws should be made available for staff.
- Education Authorities that receive government disability funding should provide details in annual reports and make details freely available to parents.
- Education authorities should make all relevant policies and guidelines freely available to parents and in a language and format that they can understand.
- They should adopt an open and responsive attitude towards complaints and aim for the best practice and quality improvement.
- Governments and advocacy organisations should provide community education on disability discrimination.
- Human Relations Commissions should reduce the backlog in complaints handling.