



Current levels of access and attainment for students with disability in the school system, and the impact on students and families associated with inadequate levels of support
Submission 18 - Attachment 1

Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

20 OCT 2012

Mr Johnny Wapstra

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Dear Mr Wapstra

Thank you for your email dated 16 August 2012 regarding amending the eligibility criteria for *Supplementary teacher aide support – specialised health purposes* funding to include Type 1 diabetes.

I recognise that diabetes is a serious health condition and commend you for your commitment to your children's health and education.

Queensland state schools have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to keep students safe while they attend school. The Department of Education, Training and Employment is committed to supporting students with health conditions such as diabetes and has recently developed a new procedure, *Management of students with specialised health needs*, which is available online at <http://ppr.det.qld.gov.au/education/management/Pages/Management-of-Students-with-Specialised-Health-Needs.aspx>.

The procedure recognises that the principal is responsible for the health care management of students, including those with diabetes. Within this procedure, schools have access to the *Diabetes Guidelines for Queensland Schools* which provides strategies to support students with diabetes.

Schools are able to contact their local regional office to request financial assistance to support students requiring diabetic management.

Recognising that diabetic management has changed and now requires routine procedures, such as insulin injections to be administered during school hours, a review of the eligibility criteria for *Supplementary teacher aide support – specialised health purposes* is currently underway.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you contact Ms Marg Pethiyagoda, Assistant Director-General within Education Queensland, by telephone on _____ or by email at _____

Thank you for your interest in the health and wellbeing of Queensland state school students.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 12/312451