

Disability Education Reference Group

Tuesday 24 May 2022
13:30 – 3:00pm

Communiqué

In attendance at the Disability Education Reference Group were representatives from the ACT Community Services Directorate (Office for Disability - OfD), ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Association, ACT Down Syndrome Association, Australian Education Union, Carers ACT, the Down Syndrome Association's Our Say Group, Imagine More, the ACT Disability Reference Group, and the ACT Education Directorate.

Topics discussed included:

- Operational changes in 2023, including the provision of Disability Education Programs in every ACT public school.
- The ACT Education Directorate Leadership conference, which is being held on 2 and 3 June, with a focus on inclusive education.
- The Preschool Pathways Partners who are focused on coaching and mentoring preschool and ECEC staff who are part of the 3-year-old initiative. The Preschool Pathways Partners will also work with parents and carers to provide transition advice and support.
- Inclusive Education Reform initiatives, including the Community Conversation consultation, which has now concluded. The consultants are in the process of developing the final report which is due to be delivered in June 2022.
- The ACT Education Directorate intends to facilitate a workshop in July with Disability Education Reference Group members to consider and help shape the Inclusive Education Strategy and implementation plan, noting that further engagement with staff will also be critical and it is anticipated to be a program of reform over time.
- Consultation for the ACT Disability Strategy is underway and Imagine More are continuing to deliver a customised webinar series.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 16 August 2022