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Disability Education Reference Group

Tuesday 18 August 2020
12:30pm – 2:00 pm

Via Microsoft Teams

**Communiqué**

In attendance were representatives from the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations (ACT P&C); Australian Association of Special Education and the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA); University of Canberra; Education Directorate (EDU); and the Community Services Directorate, Office for Disability.

Apologies were received from the National Disability Insurance Agency; Australian Education Union ACT Branch; Carers ACT; Advocacy for Inclusion; and Imagine More.

Two presentations on work experience and transitions to the workforce were provided by Michael Fieldhouse, Social Impact Practice Executive, DXC Technology and Lucia Ciccarone from the Education Directorate Careers, Transitions and VET team.

Topics discussed included:

* training currently under development for school-based Disability Education Coordination Officers (DECOs);
* the streams of work involved in supporting students with disability (culture; workforce capability; relationships and leadership; operations, process and communications; resourcing; and data, research, evaluation and governance);
* DERG membership;
* data and support for students with disability returning to school following remote learning;
* Everyone Everyday professional learning program to teach inclusive behaviours at school;
* the annual Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) census;
* the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability;
* the review of the Disability Standards for Education; and
* changes to the enrolment process to support students with disability to enrol in their local schools.

The ACT Council of P&C provided feedback from their newly established Disability Working Group on the importance of physical access at schools. ACARA provided an update on their review of the Australian curriculum.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 10 November 2020, 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Venue: Online/Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning (TBC)