



Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

This information sheet is to provide information to parents and carers whose child or young person has been included in the National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) for Our Lady of the Rosary Waitara Commonwealth census count in August 2022.

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is your child getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) and it can include many students (see below).
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, your child’s needs and the reasons that your child needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how your child’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that your child should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to your child whilst they are at school.

What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from; sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, autism spectrum disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a student in the NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about your child’s learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the Commonwealth government as part of its annual census process. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Changes were made to the law ([Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#)). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child. The school does however need to discuss with you the help that your child needs and the help that is being put in place for your child at school to access, engage and participate in learning on the same basis as other students.

Where can I find out more?

If you have questions, you can ask your child's school for help. The person to contact at your child's school is:

- Name:
- Role/Position:
- Contact Email:
- Contact Phone Number:

You can also find out more by looking at:

- ✓ The National NCCD portal – www.nccd.edu.au there is a specific section for parents regarding information about the NCCD
- ✓ 2020 National NCCD Guidelines - https://www.nccd.edu.au/sites/default/files/2020_nccd_guidelines.pdf
- ✓ The Disability Standards for Education - <https://docs.education.gov.au/documents/fact-sheet-2-disability-standards-education-2005>
- ✓ The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 - <https://docs.education.gov.au/documents/fact-sheet-1-disability-discrimination-act-1992>