For parents, guardians and carers

Speaker 1: You are your child's first and most influential educator. Schools and educators rely on your understanding of your child's abilities and learning needs. Students with disability have the right to access and participate in all school activities inside and outside the classroom, on the same basis as their peers. If needed, schools must provide reasonable adjustments to enable this. Schools and parents work together consulting before making the required adjustments for your child.

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) is a way for schools to report information about the adjustments they provide to address the functional impact of disability. Schools have legislative requirements and obligations towards students under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. The NCCD forms part of the school's reporting obligations. The information reported in the NCCD is already available in the school.

The NCCD uses the broad definition of disability as defined by the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. Within the NCCD context, disability is categorized under four subcategories, physical, cognitive, sensory and social-emotional.

What information is collected through the NCCD? Schools gives the Australian government information about each student with disability. This includes the student's level of adjustment, the student's category of disability, and the student's year of schooling. The NCCD process is managed through your child's school and there are no extra tests or forms to fill out. The information is de-identified. Data provided to the Australian government does not include personal details such as students' names or dates of birth. Your consent is not required, but Australia's privacy laws regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of any information collected through the NCCD.

Why collect this information? The NCCD data gives Australian schools, education authorities, and the community a clear picture if the number of students receiving adjustments because of the functional impact of disability. It helps government and education authorities to develop policies that inform funding and support for students with disability and inform improvements to students with disability programs. It also helps the Australian government to calculate funding to approved authorities and schools to support students with disability to access, participate and engage in education.

What does the NCCD mean for you? Schools value your insights about your child. They'll keep you informed about the NCCD and consult with you regarding any adjustments your child receives. Find out more about the NCCD on the NCCD portal. Contact your school or education authority if you have any questions.