



Resolution 2

Resolution Title: Transitions to post school options

Wording of Resolution:

That VIEW Clubs of Australia call on Australian governments at all levels to address the disparity in educational outcomes for students with a disability and continue to support and resource these students to maximize their educational potential and transition to meaningful post school pathways such as tertiary education and/or employment.

Rationale:

That students with a disability will achieve parity with their non-disabled peers in school retention and secondary graduation rates and will go on to participate equally in further study and employment.

Arguments for the resolution:

- The transition from school to the work place for young people with a disability is critical.
- Employment experiences and outcomes for young people with a disability continue to be poor. The National Enquiry heard concerns expressed for the low rate of educational attainment among students with a disability. Education and employment go hand in hand and statistics show a Year 12 attainment around 25% for people with disabilities, compared to just over 50% for people without disabilities.
- A study in 2009 found 20–24 year olds with a disability were half as likely to be studying for a degree but equally likely to be studying for a VET qualification. People with disabilities who had a post school qualification were found to be increasingly competitive in the employment market but equal qualifications alone did not close the gap in employment prospects.
- A national consultation process in 2009 noted the failure of the education system to adequately prepare students for post school life through individualised planning that allows for meaningful choice.
- The first report on the implementation of the National Disability Strategy recognised that ‘a good quality inclusive education is important for all students to enable them to be successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens’. However, students with a disability commonly report poor educational experiences and outcomes. The 2015 Senate enquiry into educational attainment of students with a disability noted that under-education leads to unemployment, poorer health, social isolation and a lifetime of disadvantage.

Arguments against the resolution:

- All resourcing (personnel, material, structural) requires adequate funding and may be expensive