

Teachers are in a profession held accountable for the future of our children's academic learning. There is a loss of teacher education in recognising gifted children with a disability/ies, how to identify them and how to accommodate them.

My own experience being in a country town with 4 primary schools and 2 high schools with my son attending a school since 3 year olds...is that I have to parent my child even when at school, he's just the naughty kid, he needs to assimilate and no matter how many IEPs are in place they are always so negative with no strength building. I have had to research all the best thing for my child with no help from school while the school requests from his providers for assistance when they do not follow what is recommended.

There is an obvious lack in communication and education, even Catholic Education needs to make sure all staff have continuing education in disability and gifted education as my child is falling through the cracks and I pay hundreds of dollars sending him to Firetech, Scitech, STEAM courses and organising enrichment excursions with lecturers praising him and how well behaved he is.

The most unfair part of this is my son is so eager and enthusiastic to join clubs such as the Da Vinci club (similar to GaT club) that he doesn't even get the chance to be invited even when his grades are high because his disability "could" cause a distraction to other students and the teacher.

This needs to change. Lack of teacher education leads to discrimination, lack of opportunity and a loss in a child's academic learning for the future (due to disengagement).