A SAFE PLACE TO LEARN? HARM IN SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS WITH COGNITIVE DISABILITY

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Students with cognitive disability experience high rates of abuse, neglect, victimisation and/or harassment in and around their school education. This participatory research project will investigate current access to justice for such students, and address barriers to meeting their legal and human rights in responding to this harm.

This project will undertake an extensive review of law and policy, followed by interviews and focus groups conducted with 100 key stakeholders in two school regions. Stakeholders will include 30 school students with cognitive disability plus those who support them (families, and other support workers), as well as teachers, child protection, disability and education policy makers. Students and families will be interviewed outside of the school environment.

Two public seminars will be held to discuss and promote the findings of the project. The project results will also be widely promoted through resources tailored to students, families, education workers and legal and disability advocates. It is hoped the findings from this project will improve access to justice for school students with cognitive disability who experience these harms in and around school.

PROJECT TIMEFRAME

February 2013 – May 2014

PROJECT PARTNER

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RESEARCH TEAM

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