



Supporting children and families to **engage in education**

The Student Advocacy Project aims to provide an inclusive education for all children in Northern Territory Government schools in Darwin and Palmerston until 2022.

Many families and students face challenges impacting their ability to fully engage with learning at school. Save the Children Australia have partnered with the Northern Territory (NT) Department of Education to pilot this project to explore ways to address these challenges and strive for inclusive education for all children. The Student Advocacy Project will support and facilitate inclusive education in relation to enrolment, participation, facilities and services.



What are the project's goals?

- Students are supported to enrol and participate in school with other children in their local area
- Students receive reasonable adjustments and support tailored to their learning needs
- Students and their families have the information they need to help schools and service providers make meaningful learning opportunities possible for them
- Common barriers to inclusion in schools are identified and addressed collaboratively.

Who can access the services?

- Students from NT Government preschool, primary and secondary schools
- Families in the Darwin and Palmerston area seeking information, guidance and support for their child's inclusion in school.

What are the guiding principles?

Information, advocacy and support provided by Save the Children will be grounded in the Northern Territory Education Act 2015, the Disability Standards for Education 2005, the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data Guidelines and current Department of Education Policy and Practice Guidelines.

What services will be offered?

The project offers services on various levels of engagement so students and their families can take part in a way that best meets their needs, providing the support they need to work with schools to make their inclusion possible.

Self-Advocacy

Provide resources and information for families to work independently with schools to enable students' inclusion.

- Telephone call-back service
- Information, advice and referral
- Fact sheets and publications.

Individual Advocacy

Where a student faces barriers to accessing education, we help find solutions by working directly with families and school principals.

- Advocate for the individual student's access to inclusive education
- Engage with schools and stakeholders
- Help develop plans to enable a student's participation in school-based learning.

Systemic Advocacy

Identify common barriers to inclusive education and escalate cases where standards for inclusion may have been breached.

- Provide support to find a way forward for unresolved complex cases
- Make referrals to other specialist services
- Collect information on common barriers faced by schools that prevent students from attending.

Where can you find out more?

To find out more, contact the Save the Children call-back service on **08 7971 9810** or email: student.advocacy@savethechildren.org.au

Photo: Adam Williamson