



## **SPECIFIC EDUCATION NEEDS**

### **POLICY**

ICPA seeks equity of access and opportunity to appropriate educational services and facilities to identify and assist children from rural and remote areas who have specific learning needs.

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. Provision of financial assistance for telehealth appointments for children with specific learning needs to access a variety of specialist services in rural and remote Australia.
2. Provision of mental health resources specifically designed for the unique needs of rural and remote children particularly around the issue of bullying.
3. Ensure all rural and remote students have access to early identification of learning difficulties and have access to early intervention.
4. Provision and continuation of specific learning needs centres to cater for children with learning difficulties, learning disabilities or those who are gifted and talented.
5. Provision of mobile units and itinerant specialists and therapists to consult in rural and remote areas on a regular basis, enabling the early identification and ongoing support of children with specific learning needs.
6. Availability of suitable accommodation for those accessing specific learning needs centres.
7. Availability of travel and accommodation assistance for rural and remote families travelling to access face-to-face specialist services for students with specific learning needs.
8. Students with specific learning needs, studying by distance education or in rural and remote schools, have regular access to specific learning needs teachers and therapists.
9. Identification of and assistance for children with specific learning needs, to be a component of teacher-training courses.
10. Teachers in rural and remote areas to have knowledge of the identification process and assistance available for children with specific learning needs.



## Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia (Inc) FEDERAL COUNCIL

*"Advocating for equitable access to education for students in rural and remote Australia"*

11. Regular workshops and seminars be held in rural and remote areas to assist children with specific learning needs.
12. Adequate Federal Government funding to assist with the provision of specialist services for both school and home-based education and therapy programs.
13. Co-operation of all relevant agencies, government and private and voluntary, to better service the requirements of rural and remote children with specific learning needs.
14. Availability of incentives to attract qualified professionals to rural and remote areas to enable continuity of specific learning programs.