

In brief: *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)*

What does the DDA mean?

In Australia, we have laws that protect us. Laws are the rules that everyone must follow. Laws are made by:

- Governments
- The legal system, including the courts.

The laws are there so that we can all:

- Be treated fairly
- Feel safe
- Take part in the community
- Respect each other.

In Australia, the DDA is a law that says people with disability must be treated fairly. People also have to treat you fairly if you:

- Look after someone with a disability
- Use equipment or an aide to help you
- Have a dog or other animal who helps you to get around.

What is a disability?

- Your body is not working in the right way
- Your body has something that will stop it working the right way in the future
- You find it hard to learn, no matter how hard you try
- Your thoughts and feelings make life difficult for you sometimes or all the time.

If you are a student with disability, what does the DDA say about education?

The DDA says that students with disability have the right to take part in their education just like all other students.

The DDA gives you and your parents and carers a way to get things fixed if you have been treated unfairly.

How does it work at school?

At school, a student with disability has the right to the same educational opportunities as other students. If your disability stops you from joining in, the school may need to make changes to support you.

Schools do this by following the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*.

Want to know more?

The Australian Human Rights Commission has more information. You can look them up on the Internet or click on the link below:

<http://www.humanrights.gov.au/publications/know-your-rights-disability-discrimination>