Article 24
The Right to an Inclusive Education
E Koekoe Ana te Tūī

A report by the Independent Monitoring Mechanism (IMM)
June 2016
The Independent Monitoring Mechanism

(IMM) is made up of 3 groups:

• The Human Rights Commission

• The Office of the Ombudsman

• The New Zealand Convention Coalition Monitoring Group

It is the job of the IMM to tell the New Zealand Government if they are making \textbf{The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (the Disability Convention)} real.
Some of the things the IMM does to tell the Government if they are making the Disability Convention real are:

- looks at the rights of disabled people
- reports on the rights of disabled people
- speaks up about the things that stop disabled people having equal rights
- looks at how to make things better for disabled people
- says what is working well for disabled people.
The IMM has written a report about Article 24 and education in New Zealand.

**Article 24** is the part in the **Disability Convention** that talks about education.

Article 24 tells Governments what rights disabled people have when it comes to education.

Research done by the IMM tells the New Zealand Government the things they need to change to make sure disabled people get their rights in education.

If the Government makes the changes the IMM has said it should it will help make **Article 24** in the **Disability Convention** real in New Zealand.
Inclusive education is about making education in New Zealand better for all learners.

Inclusive education means disabled children and young people are able to:

- get a good education
- get support at school that is right for them
- go to everyday schools together with children and young people who do not have disability.
The IMM report says the things that stop people getting an inclusive education are:

- the right to an inclusive education is not in any laws in New Zealand
- the right to an inclusive education is not in any policies or plans about education
- it is not very easy for Government education groups and disability groups to work together
- the way information about resources in education is collected and used is not working well.
Recommendations – things the IMM says need to change

The IMM report on inclusive education in New Zealand says there are some things that need to change.

Some of the things that need to be changed are:

- the right to an inclusive education needs to be law - in the Education Act

- the Education Act needs to cover what the Disability Convention says

- the right to inclusive education should be in the rules for how schools are run by principals and board of trustees
• the Government should set up an inclusive education advisory group
  
  o any inclusive education advisory group should have members of disability and education groups on it

• there needs to be a way of getting information about inclusive education to see if it is working

• education goals need to be included in the:
  
  o New Zealand Disability Strategy
  
  o New Zealand Disability Action Plan.