1. **Specialist staffing**

For the first time every regular school in NSW is being provided with a base specialist staffing allocation. This base has been calculated on a school’s 2011 actual total student enrolment in regular classes. (0.1 FTE for less than 160 students or 0.4 FTE for 160 or more students).

Each school is then considered for a further staffing allocation on the basis of the school’s student learning need index (SLNI). This is a needs based index drawn from 3 years of longitudinal NAPLAN data – 2009, 2010 and 2011. It is constructed around the number of students in regular classes in the school who perform in the bottom 10% through the national testing program.

This index has been used to allocate learning difficulties resources in NSW public schools since 2003 and was developed in collaboration with peak groups including principals, parents and unions.

The specialist staffing allocation will be adjusted every 3 years.

2. **Flexible funding**

A flexible learning and support funding allocation to each school comprises a base calculated on total school 2011 actual student enrolment in regular classes.

The SNLI is then applied to compile a school’s total annual learning and support flexible funding resource. This resource is used principally by schools to engage school learning support officers.

The flexible funding allocation will be adjusted annually for schools and will reflect CPI increases and pro rata budget enhancements to the total Integration Funding Support Program.