



Glenleighden a winner!

The Glenleighden School has won this year's Disability Action Week Award for the Queensland organisation that has developed and promoted innovative and inclusive programs to assist people with a disability to gain knowledge and skills.

The award recognises the work the school does to assist children with severe to profound Primary Language Disorder, a condition which seriously affects a child's ability to speak and communicate and to understand and appreciate the world in which he or she lives.

Glenleighden is the only school of its kind in Australia and families from all over the country have moved to Brisbane to access its innovative and successful approach to dealing with language and communication impairment.

The school provides a multidisciplinary program which recognises that language impairment is frequently accompanied by a range of other factors that can limit a child's ability to speak and to learn.

Such factors include, for example, poor gross and fine motor skills, poor muscle strength, difficulty with balance and body coordination, and so on.

Consequently, in addition to its teaching staff, the school employs a number of speech and occupational therapists, physiotherapists and a psychologist to work with the children to help them deal with the issues they face.

As an adjunct to the work of the school, a clinic and outreach program (Called Let's Talk) has been established in Newstead to provide additional professional services to assist families with children with Primary Language Disorder.

In addition, staff travel throughout the state to provide parents and children with advice and assistance.