Students benefited the most when allied health practitioners, teachers, aides and families worked collaboratively. Therapists believed that knowing the child and family enhanced the services that they provided at school.

Allied health experts are recognised as useful team members and essential experts. School communities are places where all children can thrive and all children should feel welcomed and valued.

With training and support, teachers and aides can adapt, modify and tailor the curriculum for students with disabilities.

Organisations such as CPEC are centres for excellence with considerable expertise in low incidence disabilities such as cerebral palsy, associated conditions, and complex communication needs.

Schools require assistance to build up expertise to support students.

“For our most complex students…we rely enormously on Allied Health. If a child’s non-verbal then we really need our speech pathologist to be giving us some really good professional learning and strategies and to be working with us to make sure the staff are trained in the best approach.” Principal

The fact sheet may be downloaded from the CPEC website http://www.cpec.org.au/