



STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY



Rationale:

Students with disabilities and impairments have a right to attend a mainstream government school and participate in purposeful, meaningful learning experiences based on their individual needs. Adjustments may be necessary to teaching and learning programs if the disability affects the student's ability to fully participate in the activity.

Aims:

- To provide all students with learning opportunities that caters for their individual needs.
- To ensure that those students who attract disabilities funding have programs tailored to meet their special requirements.

Implementation:

- The Assistant Principal will be assigned responsibility to coordinate the Program for Students with Disabilities in line with DEECD policy this includes:
 - *The coordination of applications for funding including uploading information on SOCS (Student Online Case System) data base*
 - *Liaison with outside agencies and consultants when needed*
 - *The appointment of Educational Support (ES) staff*
 - *Facilitation of the Program Support Groups*
 - *The development and implementation of program budgets*
 - *Co-ordination of staff professional development*
- The appraisal process for applications will occur at the earliest opportunity to provide the maximum potential for applications to be successful and to ensure a smooth transition for new students into our school setting.
- An exchange of information between the students' previous Educational Support Worker and teacher with the current teacher to occur at the beginning of the school year.
- Education Support (ES) worker will be appointed accordingly, as will any support services such as Speech Therapist or Occupational Therapist. These decisions will be made with the best interest of the child being the main consideration
- The classroom teacher, parents/carers will meet for an informal exchange of information regarding the student.
- Copies of previous ILP (Individual Learning Plan) and minutes to be passed onto new class teachers. A new ILP will be written to cater for the specific needs of the student.
- Program Support Groups will be established for all eligible students to facilitate curriculum planning and resource provision.
- Program Support Groups will be invited to meet at least once a semester. These meetings will make recommendations regarding the development and implementation of individual student programs including student achievement goals, timelines and methods of evaluation, the use of support staff and external consultants, and the use of any additional resources required. All meetings will be documented and available to all members.
- Communication with relevant consultants and support agencies will be undertaken as needed. Parents/Carers will be informed of this process
- All curriculum programs will be inclusive of all students.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

July 2013

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle