



Students with Disabilities

1. Rationale:

All students with disabilities, who live within our enrolment zone, have a right to attend our school, and to have their individual needs addressed.

2. Aims

- i. To provide all students with learning opportunities which cater for their individual needs.
- ii. To ensure that those students who attract Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) funding have programs tailored to meet their special requirements.

3. Implementation

- i. The Assistant Principal will be assigned responsibility to coordinate the PSD program at our school, including the coordination of applications for funding, the coordination of Student Support Groups, the development and implementation of program budgets, coordination of staff professional development and all other issues related to students with disabilities and their respective program needs.
- ii. 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.
- iii. The Student Support Group process will be fully explained to all members.
 - the parent/guardian/carer(s) of the student
 - a parent/guardian/carer(s)' advocate (where chosen by the parent/guardian/carers)
 - a teacher
 - the Assistant Principal (to act as chairperson)
 - integration aides who work with the student
 - the student (where appropriate).
- iv. Student Support Groups will be established for all eligible students to facilitate curriculum planning and resource provision.
- v. Student Support Groups are expected to meet at least once per term, and will make recommendations to the principal 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.
- vi. Each Student Support Group will evaluate their progress and that of each student and provide an Individual Education Plan which includes recommendations to the Principal at the end of each school year. They will be actively involved in any transition to another setting, e.g. secondary school, specialist settings.
- vii. Communication with relevant consultants and support agencies will be undertaken by the Assistant Principal on a needs basis.
- viii. All curriculum programs will be inclusive of all students.
- ix. Professional development relating to relevant disabilities as well as disabilities funding processes will be made available to all appropriate staff as required.

4. Evaluation

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

References: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/needs/Pages/disabilityprogram.aspx>
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/needs/Pages/default.aspx>
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/diversity/Pages/learningdiversity.aspx>