

DISABILITIES

SCHOOL SPECIFIC POLICY

Rationale:

- Students with disabilities and significant additional needs have a right to attend a mainstream government school, and to have their individual needs addressed.

Aims:

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

Implementation:

- A coordinator will be assigned responsibility to coordinate the Disabilities program at our school, including the coordination of applications for funding, the coordination of Program Support Groups, the development and implementation of program budgets, coordination of staff professional development, employment and coordination of education support staff who work in that program and all other issues related to students with disabilities and their respective program needs.
- 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.
- The Program Support Group process will be fully explained to all parties.
- Program Support Groups will be established for all eligible students to facilitate curriculum planning and resource provision.
- In accordance with DEECD guidelines Program Support Groups will be invited 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.
- Communication with relevant consultants and support agencies will be undertaken on a needs basis.
- All curriculum programs will be inclusive of all students.
- The Abilities Based Learning and Education Support (ABLES) Curriculum will be offered to eligible students. This is a Pre-Australian Curriculum, which works towards level 1 of the Australian Curriculum.
- Professional development relating to relevant disabilities as well as disabilities funding processes will be made available to all appropriate staff as required and if available.

Evaluation:

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

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

September 2013

