

DISABILITIES

POLICY

Rationale:

- Students with disabilities 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:

- All students who are funded under the Disabilities program are welcome at our school.
- A staff member 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 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.
- 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.
- Professional development relating to relevant disabilities as well as disabilities funding processes will be made available to all appropriate staff as required.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. Each Parent Support Group will evaluate their progress and that of each student and provide a written report including recommendations to the Principal at the end of each school year.

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

June 2004