

PARKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY: Learning Needs Policy

PROGRAM LEADER: Rod McKinlay

DATE RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: August 2015

RATIONALE

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

AIMS

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

IMPLEMENTATION

- All students are welcome at our school. Including students who are funded under the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) program and students with needs that are not funded.
- PSD Students, and other non-funded students who require support, will have a Support Group established which consists of: parents, PSD coordinator, class teacher and SSSO staff as required. The purpose of the support group is to: develop Individual Learning Plans (ILP's), monitor student progress, establish achievable goals and review goals at regular intervals throughout the year. The ILP's will detail how the goals are implemented within the classroom.
- A staff member will be assigned responsibility to coordinate the PSD program, 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.
- 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 Student Support Group process will be fully explained to all parties.
- Student Support Groups will be invited to meet at least three times per year, 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 those documents made available to all members.
- Parkhill will continue to work with outside medical or specialist practitioners such as speech, OT etc. in partnership for the best outcome for the students. Communication with relevant consultants and support agencies will be undertaken on a needs basis.
- All curriculum programs will endeavour to 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.
- Each Program 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.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed at four year intervals, or sooner on a needs basis as determined by School Council.

APPENDICES

- Nil

REFERENCES

- DoE&T - School Policy and Advisory Guide:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/azindex.aspx>
- DoE&T Program for Students with Disabilities:
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/needs/pages/disabilityprogram.aspx>

- Education and Training Reform Act 2006

[http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/f932b66241ecf1b7ca256e92000e23be/575C47EA02890DA4CA25717000217213/\\$FILE/06-024a.pdf](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/Domino/Web_Notes/LDMS/PubStatbook.nsf/f932b66241ecf1b7ca256e92000e23be/575C47EA02890DA4CA25717000217213/$FILE/06-024a.pdf)