



Cranbourne East Primary School

Program for Students with Disabilities Policy

Rationale

Cranbourne East Primary School is committed to delivering an inclusive education that ensures all students have access to a quality education that meets their needs. The Department provides a range of policies, programs and resources for schools to support the delivery of high quality schooling for all students, including students with disabilities. The Program for Students with Disabilities is a targeted supplementary funding program for Victorian government school. It provides resources to schools for a defined population of students with disabilities, with moderate to severe needs, who meet criteria for one of seven program categories:

- Physical disability
- Visual impairment
- Severe behaviour disorder
- Intellectual disability
- Hearing impairment
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Severe language disorder with critical educational needs

The eligibility criteria were developed from guidelines set by the World Health Organisation. Program resources assist schools to meet their obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

Goals

- To promote the inclusion of students with moderate to severe disabilities within our school.
- To provide clear guidelines for supporting families of students with a disability.
- To create an educational environment and curriculum that is inclusive and meaningful to all students.

Implementation

Reasonable Adjustments

- The school makes reasonable adjustments to accommodate students with a disability according to the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. An adjustment is a measure or action taken to assist a student with a disability to participate in education on the same basis as other students.
- Resources from the Program for Students with Disabilities can be used in a number of ways to support students, including:
 - Education support staff
 - Specialist staff
 - Teacher professional development
 - Specialist equipment/materials

- Applications to the Program for Students with Disabilities will be submitted in accordance to the DET guidelines within the Program for Students with Disabilities operational guidelines for schools.

Student Support Group

- A Student Support Group is mandatory for students in the Program for Students with Disabilities.

The members of the Student Support Group are to be:

- the Principal (or nominee)
- the parent/guardian/carer(s)
- the home group teacher
- relevant Education Support staff

A Student Support Group is a cooperative partnership between the parent/guardian/carer(s), school representatives and professionals to ensure coordinated support for the student's educational needs. It is the responsibility of the Student Support Group to:

- Identify the student's learning and support needs
- gather and review evidence to determine any adjustments to be made to the curriculum, and teaching and learning approaches
- provide advice and guidance on an appropriate educational program
- undertake personalised learning and support planning for the student
- discuss planning with teachers and provide support on the implementation of learning and support adjustments
- provide advice to the principal (or nominee) concerning the additional educational needs of the student and the types of resources that will meet these needs
- review and evaluate the student's program once per term, and at other times if requested by any member of the group.

Individual Learning Plan

- All students on the Program for Students with Disabilities are provided with an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) which is reviewed on a termly basis.

An Individual Learning Plan includes:

- Individual learning goals for the student by curriculum area (eg Literacy, social-emotional)
- Teaching strategies to be implemented to support the student
- Evaluation of the students' progress against each goal.

EVALUATION

Ratified by School Council: September 2018

This policy is to be reviewed annually or as policy is amended.