

## CATERING FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

### (Including Program for Students with a Disability – PSD and Gifted and Talented)

#### PHILOSOPHY

Mount Waverley North Primary School acknowledges that an inclusive curriculum is important to ensure all students are challenged, supported, engaged and represented. Furthermore, we recognise there is a need to cater for the specific needs of individuals in order to maximise their full potential.

#### PURPOSE

- To ensure a purposeful, comprehensive and flexible curriculum aligned to the Victorian Curriculum, Early Childhood Framework and Abilities Based Learning and Education Support (ABLES) is provided to all students in order to reach their full potential.
- To ensure that those students who attract Program for Students with a Disability (PSD) funding have programs tailored to meet their special requirements.

#### IMPLEMENTATION

- All curriculum programs will
  - be inclusive of all students.
  - be differentiated ensuring experiences can be supported, modified, enriched, extended and broadened.
  - actively engage students in rich, open ended and purposeful learning to maintain motivation, engagement and connectedness to school.
- A range of assessment tools will be used to ensure accurate assessment of student understandings and future learning needs.
- Students will have access to internal and external programs and resources to support their learning.
- Personal and public means will be used to acknowledge and validate achievement.
- Students working 12 months or more ahead and 6 months or more behind the expected level will have an Individual Learning Plan developed for them to focus on their particular area/s of need.
- Student Support Groups:
  - will be developed to plan for and monitor a program to meet the individual needs of the student;
  - will include the Wellbeing Coordinator, parent/s, teacher and if appropriate Educational Support staff (ES);
  - will be established for all students achieving 12 months or more below the expected standard;
  - will be held at least once per term, with minutes distributed to all members;
  - will be established for students requiring social / emotional support;
  - may include DET School Support Service Officers (SSSO) and/or external health practitioners – (psychologists, speech pathologists, social workers, occupational therapists, behaviour specialists, paediatricians, or others as appropriate)

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- Communication with relevant consultants and support agencies will be undertaken on a needs basis.
- Professional Learning catering for the relevant needs of our students will be made available to all appropriate staff. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Students requiring physical, mental, social or academic support as a result of a diagnosed disability.
  - Students requiring support in learning as a result of academic or social-emotional needs.
  - Students requiring extension in learning.

**Program for Students with a Disability (PSD)**

- A staff member will be assigned responsibility to coordinate the Program for Students with a Disability (PSD). This role encompasses:
  - the coordination of applications for funding;
  - the coordination of Student Support Groups (SSGs);
  - the development and implementation of program budgets;
  - coordination of staff professional development;
  - all other issues related to students on the PSD.
- 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.
- A Student Support Group will be established for all PSD students.

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