



ST CATHERINE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY K - 12

"Supporting Students who are educationally disadvantaged"

Responsible Officer	College Principal Special Needs Co-ordinator
Effective Date	June 2006
Superseded Documents	
Review Date	2019
Associated Documents	Mental Health Policy 2017

SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

K - 12

RATIONALE:

All students at St Catherine's Catholic College have a right to an education that is appropriate to their needs. All children can learn and make progress and it is the schools' responsibility to ensure that successful learning occurs for all students including those with special educational needs. Special needs students may require an individualised education program and additional resources for successful learning to occur.

St Catherine's Catholic College recognises its responsibility for meeting the educational needs of all students and strives to be a school that is truly inclusive. St Catherine's Catholic College recognises the individuality and dignity of each young person and fosters the development of each one's unique potential. St Catherine's Catholic College strives to provide effective teaching/learning experiences, in all fields of endeavour, for all students to whom we offer enrolment.

AIMS:

In the area of Special Needs, St Catherine's Catholic College aims to:

- aide students to realise their individual potential in all areas of their school lives
- ensure that all students with special needs are identified each year, and as a continuum should be monitored and assisted as needed during their K - 12 journey at St Catherine's Catholic College
- ensure teachers, with specialty assistance, plan appropriate programs for students with special needs
- develop resources for special needs students and ensure that staff are familiar with them and have easy access to them
- ensure that the educational needs of special needs students are addressed.
- assist with Transition of students with Special Needs into and through the College

IMPLEMENTATION:

St Catherine's Catholic College shall strive to create an inclusive school community by:

- ensuring that all students have equal opportunity with the educational process
- creating an active Teaching Learning Team (TLT)
- having a workable Special Needs Plan
- encouraging staff to seek and to participate in relevant professional development opportunities
- establishing school based programs, processes and strategies for students with special needs (eg the Parent Assisted Leaving Programs)

- providing support to all staff through the Teacher/Learning Facilitator, Special Needs Teacher, Teaching Learning Team and the services of the Saint Laurence Centre Special Needs Advisor, Counsellor and other health professionals
- ensuring that all appropriate assessment and reporting occurs for students with special needs, including reviews of individual education plans
- annually reviewing Special Needs Policy and Plan and classroom implementation of programs

BUDGET:

The Special Needs budget consists of monies from:

- Commonwealth funding for students with special needs who are on Integration programs
- State Government funding, Special Needs Index, to support students with special needs gaining access to the curriculum
- CSO allocated funding to assist teachers of students with special needs with professional development opportunities.

EVALUATION:

- Evaluation of the Special Needs Policy shall be undertaken every two years.
- The Policy shall be evaluated by a committee comprising, all members of the TLT, College Executive Representatives, Special Needs Teacher and the St Laurence Centre Special Needs Advisor and Counsellor and fellow school colleagues.