

Special Needs and disabilities Policy

Rationale:

Alphington Primary School is committed to improving the learning outcomes of all students by acknowledging and catering for their diverse learning needs. An important element of this commitment is an emphasis on improving the learning outcomes for students with special learning needs and disabilities. APS recognises that all students have the right to choose to be educated in a mainstream school. The school acknowledges that there are advantages in having these students educated in mainstream settings. These advantages apply to all students.

Aims

- **To:**
- Accept students with special needs and disabilities as an integral part of our community
- Implement strategies that ensure inclusive practices are in place in the school
- Develop a greater understanding and inclusion of individual differences and learning preferences
- Maximise school curriculum provision and resources
- Provide relevant information to staff and parents
- Provide a school environment that is supportive of, and responsive to physical, social, emotional and academic needs

Implementation:

1. The school will provide staff with relevant and specific professional development
2. Open communication processes are established. Such processes include Student Support Group (SSG) Meetings. A SSG consists of a parent/guardian, class teacher, principal (or nominee). Optional members may include; parent advocate, student, health professional and para-professionals/organisations e.g. AustinCAMS.
3. The SSG is responsible for and works towards establishing the educational and social objectives of the child and determines an appropriate educational program within current standards
4. The SSG identifies ways in which this educational program may be implemented, by considering the support and resources which may be available
5. The SSG reviews the student's program at least once per term or as determined by the group
6. The School Council will seek special equipment or facilities (ramps, disabled toilets etc) as required.

Evaluation:

The School Council will be responsible for the review of the policy within the life of the school strategic plan.

September 2012

This policy was ratified by School Council in ...