


St Peter's Primary School	System Update: 01. 07. 2020	
Version 0.1	Date of Next Review: 01. 07. 2023	

# Learning & Diversity Policy

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## Rationale:

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The education of children with specific needs and difficulties is seen within the context of ensuring that each child has the opportunity to participate fully in the educational, social, spiritual and faith life of the school and the community. Catholic schools are committed to an inclusive pedagogy where all are welcomed, valued, acknowledged and actively engaged in education. This also forms part of the school's Child Safe policies and practices.

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards), Australian students with disability must be able to access and participate in education on the same basis as their peers. To ensure this, students with disability may receive adjustments to access education, based on the professional judgement of teachers, in consultation with the student and/or their parents, guardians or carers.

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) gives Australian schools, parents, guardians and carers, education authorities and the community information about the number of students with disability in schools and the adjustments they receive. The Australian Education Regulation 2013 requires all schools to report the data collected for the NCCD to the Australian Government on an annual basis.

## Aims:


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- To provide all students with learning opportunities that cater for their individual needs.
- To ensure that all students on NCCD have programs and supports tailored to meet their specific requirements.

## Implementation:

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- The Learning Diversity Leader will be responsible for overseeing that all students needs are catered for including: all components of the NCCD, the coordination of Program Support Group (PSG) meetings, liaising with CEM Staff with regards to both assessing and providing support for students as required, coordination of Staff professional development in this area, and all other issues related to students with specific needs and their respective program needs.
- The school will provide information to parents, carers and guardians about educational programs and the NCCD.
- All students on NCCD will be on a Personalised Learning Plan (PLP) to support their learning needs. All PLP's will be signed by both the school and the parent/guardian, and a copy of the student's PLP will be provided to the parents
- The Program Support Group process will be fully explained to all parties.
- All curriculum programs will be inclusive of all students.

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## Program Support Group:

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At the time of a requested enrolment of a student with a disability or impairment, the Principal will convene a meeting of the Program Support Group (PSG.). This support group is made up of: the Principal (or nominee), parents of the child, parent advocate (if required), class teacher and Learning Diversity Leader.

## Role of the Program Support Group:

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The PSG meets regularly, depending on the needs and level of adjustment required for the student. Minutes of all meetings are signed, kept and circulated to each member as soon as possible after the meeting date.

The purpose of this group is to work with the Learning Diversity Leader, Staff and family to:

- Determine the educational, physical and other needs of the student.
- Assess the resources in the school and those required by the child.
- Explore the educational options available to the child both now and in the future.
- Ensure that those with the most knowledge of, and responsibility for, the student work together to establish shared goals for the education of the student.
- Increase the participation of the student in; the educational programs, the faith and social life of the school, the parish and the wider community.
- Provide on-going support for teachers and the student in program development, implementation and review

## Student Support Services:

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- CEM's Student Services Program supports students who are on NCCD.
- Private Speech Pathologists, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Paediatricians etc also support individual students depending on their needs.
- These specialists are used where necessary for program support, assessments and management procedures.
- Families may organise through NDIS for service providers to work with their children during school hours.
- The school principal must give permission for this to occur.

## NCCD

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The Federal Government funding provided through the NCCD is used by Victorian Catholic schools to implement programs that improve the learning outcomes of all students, including those with additional learning needs, by providing access to additional education services. St Mary's follow the guidelines and regulations as set out by Catholic Education, Melbourne.



# Broad categories of disability used in the NCCD

## Definitions from the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*

### NCCD categories

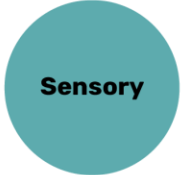
- ▶ Total or partial loss of a part of the body
- ▶ The malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person's body
- ▶ The presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness
- ▶ The presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness



- ▶ Total or partial loss of the person's bodily or mental functions
- ▶ A disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction




- ▶ Total or partial loss of the person's bodily or mental functions
- ▶ The malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person's body



- ▶ A disorder, illness or disease that affects the person's thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgement, or that results in disturbed behaviour



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Stage	Date	Ratified
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Review 1		
Review 2		
Review 3		