



MAGDALENE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

"Because I have seen the Lord"

Learning Support Policy

Rationale

Magdalene Catholic High School values the worth of each individual and promotes respect for the dignity of all people. We encourage all students to strive for their best and provide an inclusive educational environment where students' strengths are harnessed to enable them to reach their potential. Magdalene is a school where every student is seen as an individual and where diversity is the norm and is celebrated. Our focus on justice and dignity of the individual ensures that all students have equal access to the many dimensions of school life.

Catering for the diverse needs of all learners is paramount. Inclusive practices at Magdalene Catholic High School adhere with the Disability Standards for Education (2005) ensuring that education is made accessible to all students. The Disability Standards for Education (2005) are formulated under the Disability Discrimination Act (1992). Inclusive practices within the areas of enrolment, participation, curriculum development and delivery, student support services and elimination of victimisation and harassment are informed by our core Catholic Values and are in accordance with The Disability Standards for Education.

Guidelines

At Magdalene Catholic High School, we will show evidence of the implementation of the Learning Support Policy as we strive to:

1. Ensure that a student with a disability has the right to seek admission, enrol, participate and engage in courses and programs and access student support services on the same basis as students without a disability.
2. Ensure that an inclusive environment is maintained so that a student with a disability can exercise their right to an education free from victimisation and harassment based on their disability.
3. Make reasonable adjustments (as defined in the Disability Standards for Education 2005) to ensure students with disabilities can actively be involved in courses and curriculum offered by the school.
4. Individual Plans will be conducted annually for funded students. IP's will help inform teaching practice and allow all stakeholders involved to work collaboratively.
5. Staff will work together with parents to encourage students to develop their skills and potential, building their resilience and independence.

6. Staff will work collaboratively with external service providers such as Speech Pathologists, paediatricians and Psychologists to ensure relevant information and strategies are shared to best understand and cater for their educational needs.
7. Staff will work together to maintain inclusive teaching and programming principles when developing and delivering course content, curriculum and assessment methods.
8. Staff will be educated and informed by current and reputable Professional Development opportunities.
9. Magdalene Catholic High School will liaise with primary schools to identify students who may be experiencing difficulties socially, emotionally and / or academically. Staff, parents and the student will work together to decide if participation in the Transition To High School program would be beneficial.
10. Transition into post school options will be a collaborative process between the student, parents, staff and employment agencies.
11. Staff can be facilitators within this process working with all relevant stakeholders to equip the student with the skills they will require for life after school.

Basis of Discretion

- The Principal, in consultation with the CEO will make final decisions regarding enrolment.
- The Principal, in consultation with the CEO will make decisions about whether an adjustment is reasonable given the student and the context

Supporting Documents

- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Disability Discrimination Standards (Education) 2005

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed in 2015.