

DISABILITY POLICY

This policy is informed by:

- **CMS Student Welfare Policy 2015**
- CMS Anti-Bias Policy (*reviewed 2013*)
- CMS Meeting the Needs of Children with Special Needs Policy (*reviewed 2014*)
- CMS Enrolment Policy 2016
- Disability Standards for Education 2005
<https://www.education.gov.au/disability-standards-education>

Statement:

Canberra Montessori School aims to make reasonable adjustments for students with disability at the time of their enrolment and/or during the course of their education at our school.

Rationale:

Canberra Montessori School recognises that each child develops in a unique way, our philosophy is that all children should have the opportunity to develop to their full potential. We recognise our responsibility in meeting some highly complex and specialised learning needs for students with disability.

Definitions:

Disability includes students with physical, intellectual disability, vision impairment, hearing impairment, mental health conditions or language disorders.

Enrolment:

Canberra Montessori School takes reasonable steps to ensure any prospective student is able to apply for enrolment on the same basis as a prospective student without a disability.

- Provided a disability has been diagnosed prior to enrolment, extra care is taken to ensure the school is in a position to make reasonable adjustments as required.
- Extra time one on one with the student/classroom director-for familiarisation is undertaken on a case by case basis.

Participation:

- Montessori education is inclusive and individualised in nature.
- Staff work to prepare the environment to meet the needs of each student.
- The Principal or their delegate assists classroom directors to address the educational needs that require additional assistance.

- In the case that a student with disability is unable to fully participate, reasonable measures will be taken to adjust the program to allow a level of involvement by the student.

Curriculum Development,

- In the case of a student with a disability the classroom director will consult with the family to design an '*Individualised Education Plan*' (IEP) to support implementation of specific short term goals.
- The '*IEP*' will determine any agreed reasonable adjustments that need to be made within the classroom or outside environments.
- Outside agencies (e.g. occupational therapists, educational psychologists) are welcomed into the classroom to work with any students requiring additional support.

Approved by:	Date:	Next Review Date:
Principal	07/08/2020	07/08/2022