



Definition

The definition of 'disability' is found in the Australian Government's Disability Discrimination Act (1992), and includes a person who has lost total or partial bodily or mental functions, loss of a part of the body, malfunction of one's body resulting in a person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction.

Rationale

Students with disabilities have a right to education and to have their individual needs addressed. The responsibility for the well-being and successful outcomes for these students is shared by all members of the school community.

Policy

Sacred Heart College recognises it has a pastoral and professional responsibility to cater for the educational needs of all its students. In particular, the College makes every effort to provide those students with a disability appropriate educational access that will allow them to be successfully engaged in their learning with a program designed to maximize educational outcomes and pathways. Sacred Heart honours the inherent dignity of all people as the basis for productive and respectful relationships across the College Community.

Aims

- To create a learning environment and deliver a curriculum that meets the needs of all students.
- To provide an educational practice that recognises the unique identity of each student, inclusive of students with a disability by tailoring a program that meets their particular requirements.
- To provide the necessary educational leadership to develop a culture of inclusion in the school community.

Implementation

- Decision-making regarding resourcing shall be based on student needs and the principles of inclusion, access, equity and participation. In this regard the College will make every effort to seek appropriate funding that will enable tailoring a suitable educational program for students with disabilities. In doing so it will listen to and learn from the student in shaping an appropriate program.
- Curriculum programs will be inclusive of all students and Personalised Plans for learning will be developed as required and in consultation with the family.
- Professional development relating to relevant disabilities will be conducted periodically.
- The Learning Enrichment Coordinator will be assigned to coordinate the school's disabilities program, including working with families and community professionals to identify and respond to students who require specific adjustments to the learning program and to resource allocation.
- The Learning Enrichment Coordinator will involve other College staff as required; for example, College Counsellors, Learning Enrichment Tutors etc.
- The College will work with the student, family and professionals to explore transition options and post-school pathways which support life-long learning and wellbeing.

A copy of the CESA Policy Students with Disability is available on request.

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Policy Title | Students with Disabilities |
| Ratified by Executive and College Council | February 2022 |
| Policy due for review | February 2025 |

