



Additional and Diverse Needs Policy

Indooroopilly Montessori Children's House

Date: September 2004

Dates Reviewed: Feb 2006, Oct 2007, Feb 2008, **Feb 2009**

Rationale

In Australia, children with additional and diverse needs have the right to be included in any educational and care settings. (*Equal Opportunities Policy; Disabilities Discrimination Act – Commonwealth Govt.*) Research has proven that early intervention is of fundamental importance to assist children to develop their potential. It is also necessary to prevent secondary problems.

Aim

Indooroopilly Montessori Children's House endeavours to have a program, which is inclusive. The additional and diverse needs of children should be met in all areas of the curriculum. All children will benefit in a variety of ways from the intervention that one child requires and receives.

Implementation

- ◆ To communicate with a child's teacher to design and implement individual plans. This will ensure that knowledge is shared.
- ◆ To communicate with parents to ensure that information about a child can be shared. Confidentiality will be respected.
- ◆ To refer children to relevant specialist services for intervention when necessary. It is important to communicate with specialists and parents to support this process.
- ◆ To recognise the importance that hearing and vision play in a child's development. This needs to be given priority before other assessment begins.
- ◆ To activate other resources in the community and perform further research.
- ◆ To aim to assist children to develop their potential through planning activities that cater for each individual's need: (*Physical, Language, Social, Emotional, Cognitive and Sensory*)
- ◆ To attend Workshops and Seminars to increase knowledge and skills in the Areas of Special Education.

Sources

Adapting Early Childhood Curricula for Children in Inclusive Settings
Ruth E. Cook, Annette Tessier and M. Diane Klein
Children with Autism and Asperger Syndrome Patricia Howlin
Wiley June 2000

Principles: 1.3, 1.4, 2.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6