



INTEGRATION POLICY

Basic Beliefs

The five basic beliefs that guide integration are:

1. Every child has a right to be educated in a mainstream school
2. Inclusion for all students
3. Resources and services should, to the greatest possible extent, be school-based
4. Collaborative decision-making that involves all members of a Student Support Group
5. All children can learn and be taught

Berwick Lodge Primary School community believes that all children should have access to education in a mainstream school. We therefore support the enrolment of children with special needs at Berwick Lodge Primary School.

We believe that true integration can be beneficial to children both with and without special needs. It can also broaden the horizons of teachers and can provide teaching experiences with the potential for highly rewarding professional development.

We also believe that the enrolment of children with special needs at our school will only be beneficial to those children if their needs can be met through the school's current resources, or through new resources provided by the Region. Only if adequate ongoing resources are available can the integration of children with special needs be of mutual benefit to all students.

Guidelines

Consistent with these principles, integration shall be implemented according to the following guidelines:

- The Principal and staff will be responsible for the implementation of the educational programs for children with special needs. This shall include staff in-service, teacher preparation, experience, grade allocations, student evaluation, allocation of Aide support if the child is funded and in-school co-ordination.
- An Integration Support Group will be established for each child with special needs. This group will be responsible for implementation of the current "Student Support Group Procedures for Regular Schools".
(<https://education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/health/pages/studentsupportgroup.aspx>)

Responsibility for Implementation

The Student Wellbeing Team will be responsible for the implementation and continuous monitoring of the policy.

Date Passed by School Council

The Integration policy was passed by School Council on 24th October 2016.

Proposed Date of Review

The Learning Sub-Committee will be responsible for coordinating and planning the review of the Integration policy, under the auspices of School Council. The review period will be three years from the policy being passed by School Council.