



Teacher of Special Education

Job Description

1. To test and diagnose learning difficulties using a range of reputable instruments, both diagnostic and standardised.
2. This includes the interpretation of and dissemination of standardised test results carried out by an external educational testing provider.
3. To interpret, disseminate and act upon assessments conducted by related specialists such as language pathologists and audiologists.
4. To provide support for students by:
 - Teaching skills and strategies to overcome, circumvent or lessen the particular difficulties experienced by students with special needs;
 - Teaching study skills, organisational skills and subject material from classroom curricula in ways that complement the student's learning style;
 - Provide support for students by working with small groups or with the students individually across subject areas but most specifically in literacy and/or numeracy;
 - Modifying curricula and assessment to allow participation of students in regular class activities;
 - Developing, in consultation with subject teachers, individual learning strategies for students.
5. To provide support for subject teachers by:
 - Disseminating information about students' special needs and learning styles on a regular and ongoing basis;
 - Developing effective plans to cater for individual needs in the classroom and assisting in their implementation;
 - Providing advice on individual student's needs for modified exams, and special arrangements such as extra time;
 - Provide support for students with special needs within a classroom setting as deemed appropriate.
6. To liaise with School Counsellors, Careers Counsellors, other Learning Strategies Teachers and welfare professionals both within the School and with external organisations.
7. To provide a positive atmosphere that will motivate students for future achievement and foster their sense of individual worth.
8. To advise students and their parents about subject choices, developments in assistive technology and other concerns related to the students' effective learning.

9. To maintain up to date files on students with special needs.
10. To offer suitable PD for staff on a range of special education issues when appropriate.
11. To keep up to date with new developments in the area of students' special needs and to share this information with other staff.
12. To organise Transition Meetings between Junior School and Rosstrevor and collate all necessary files on students with special needs.

The Teacher of Learning Strategies will:

- Be responsible for gathering pertinent information about students' special needs, including achievement and diagnostic testing, as appropriate;
- Plan appropriate intervention, support or extension programs;
- Facilitate referral of students to specialists or agencies outside the School, according to need, and maintain liaison with all professionals concerned with the students' needs;
- Work in partnership with parents and respect parents' wishes in regards to their child's needs;
- Take into account, as appropriate, the views of the student when planning programs;
- Emphasise the development of confidence and independence so that students become better able to achieve in their classroom settings;
- Maintain accurate records of assessments, teaching programs, meetings and reports.