

Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School

Inclusion & Diverse Learners Policy

What are our views?

The Primary Years Programme at Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School is accessible to interested students regardless of learner variability. Our learning community creates a culture that supports all students so that they reach their full potential. We value diversity and support equal opportunity for all members of our learning community.

What is our purpose?

It is our belief that all students will receive equitable access to the curriculum despite differences in social or educational needs that may include, but are not limited to:

- Learning disabilities
- Communication disorders
- Emotional and behavior disorders
- Physical disabilities
- Sensory impairments
- Medical conditions
- Mental health conditions
- Gifted and talented
- English language learners

What are our guiding principles?

- Include the learning community in the written, taught, and assessed curriculum.
- Differentiate the curriculum, instruction, and assessments based on student needs.
- Use a variety of resources, strategies and tools to monitor and differentiate based on student needs.
- Honor learning styles, multiple intelligences, student agency and individual student needs when planning for and providing instruction.

What are our essential agreements?

- Monitor student progress using the MTSS problem solving process.
- Identify students with academic concerns.
- Implement accommodation(s) based on legal documentation: (i.e., IEP, 504, EP, PMP).
- Provide counseling, social, health, and psychological services when needed.
- Communicate regularly with families regarding student needs and accommodations.

What are our practices?

- Affirm identity and self-esteem through the learner profile and approaches to learning.
- Use a variety of monitoring tools and strategies to plan for differentiation based on student needs.
- Assess for prior knowledge.
- Use scaffolding to help students build and make meaning of abstract concepts.
- Use resources that reflect the diversity of our learning community.
- Provide extended learning through the Extended Learning / Promise Time after school tutoring program.
- Provide ESE, ELL, speech and language, gifted and talented services onsite.

What is our responsibility?

- Participate in relevant professional development (i.e.: ESE, ELL, Gifted, Equitable and Engaging Conditions for Learning, Building Positive Culture and Community).
- Collaborate with ESE and ELL staff as well as student services to plan for differentiation and accommodations.
- Celebrate diversity throughout the school year (International Showcase, Maria Edmonds Awards, Joseph Carwise Awards, Yes! I Can Awards, PMAC-Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee activities).