



# Special Needs Policy

## Freedom 7 Elementary School of International Studies

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| <p><b>Philosophy</b><br/>What are our views on special education needs?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>At Freedom 7 we believe:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All students, despite differences in educational and social needs, should receive meaningful and equitable access to the curriculum.</li> <li>● All students should have the opportunity to extend their learning through high expectations with numerous opportunities for learner –centered practice.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Purpose</b><br/>What is our purpose regarding special education needs?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p><b>Our purpose regarding special education needs is to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ensure that all students have access to the curriculum at developmentally appropriate levels.</li> <li>● Ensure that all students have opportunities for academic success.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Principles</b><br/>What are our guiding principles?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p><b>The following principles will guide us:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Include all students in the written, taught, and assessed curriculum.</li> <li>● Differentiate the curriculum, instruction, and assessments in order to develop a student’s potential.</li> <li>● Use a variety of tools and strategies to continuously monitor and differentiate based on student needs.</li> <li>● Learning styles, multiple intelligences and individual student needs drive classroom instruction.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Policies</b><br/>What are our essential agreements regarding special education needs?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>At Freedom 7, we agree to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify students with special needs.</li> <li>● Implement accommodations based on legal documentation (IEP, EP, 504, PMP,).</li> <li>● Provide differentiated instruction and assessments driven by student needs.</li> <li>● Conduct monitoring through the MTSS process every 4-6 weeks.</li> <li>● Appropriately communicate with parents regarding student needs and accommodations.</li> </ul>                                           |
| <p><b>Practice</b><br/>What are our special education needs practices?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p><b>The following practices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Affirming identity and self-esteem through the learner profile.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

- **Valuing prior knowledge through reflection, student questions, teacher questions, and pre-assessments.**
- **Scaffolding instruction and learning through implementation of team-based interventions.**
- **Differentiating instruction through ongoing assessment.**
- **Extended learning through before and after-school programs and computer-based instruction at home.**

**Professional Development**

**What is our responsibility for professional development on special education needs?**

- **Participate in relevant professional development as needed.**
- **Share professional development practices with colleagues through collaborative PLC's and faculty meetings.**
- **The school will provide personal, social and physical education professional development for all teachers.**