BASIC BELIEF
At Mansfield Primary School we believe that all students have the right to learn. Through the Disabilities and Impairments Program (D&I), students with learning challenges can experience success and achievement alongside their peers in a regular setting.

“Learning challenges” is defined by an identifiable characteristic (physical, social, emotional or intellectual), which impairs the individual from reaching their full potential.

IMPLEMENTATION
The Disabilities & Impairment Programs adopted by Mansfield Primary School will
- Focus on enabling students to develop positive self-esteem, experience success alongside their peers and develop independence.
- Use VELS or Pre-VELS for Students with Disabilities or Impairments.
- Be managed by a trained D&I coordinator which includes the coordination of applications for funding, the coordination of Program Support Groups and liaising with parents, teachers & aides.
- Establish a budget to support the implementation of all program aspects.
- Involve the development of a D&I committee (coordinators and principal) which will plan assessments and monitor programs/ budgets etc.
- Involve consultation with kindergartens, secondary colleges and other schools and relevant external provider organizations.
- Involve planning and coordinating a comprehensive program to address the special needs of our students and monitor their progress.
- Modify classroom programs to enable D&I students to participate and achieve to the best of their ability.
- Allow for flexible organizational strategies.
- Provide relevant Professional Development (PD) to address the teaching needs of all staff, which includes D&I coordinators, with access to current PD activities.

The assessment and evaluation for the D&I programs will be ongoing and cumulative. Children’s individual files will be centrally located in the office. Maintenance of the files is the role of D&I coordinator. It encompasses the following aspects:
- D&I applications for funding
- Psychological, Speech, O.T., Hearing, Vision Assessments & Pediatric reports
- P.S.G (Parent Support Groups) meetings as required
- Observation of work practices
- Learning Improvement Plans(LIP)/ Individual Learning Plans(ILP)
- Recorded history of students’ behaviour and academic achievement
- Awareness of student well being and behaviour
- Monitor teacher and student stress levels
- All teachers provided with a spreadsheet of names of children who have files
- Guidelines for the storage & management of student services files as set by DE&T

This policy was ratified by the Mansfield Primary School Council on – 13/7/2009

Review Date: 2012