

## **Iroquois Point Elementary School Special Education Needs (SEN) Policy**

### **Philosophy**

At Iroquois Point Elementary School (IPES), formative and summative assessments drive a student's instructional program. Program accommodations and modifications are made based on data and input from involved stakeholders. All staff at Iroquois Point Elementary School are committed to include all children with special needs.

Students with special needs are provided access to modified instruction and curriculum in their least restrictive environment "LRE". The LRE is an educational setting where students are provided specialized instruction and related services that include their typically developing general education peers as appropriately as possible. For some, this may be a fully self-contained classroom, resource classroom or inclusion classroom.

### **Perspective on Special Education**

At IPES, special education is specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities. Special education may include, but is not limited to: academic services, speech-language services, psychological services, physical and occupational therapy, counseling services, and parent education. Special education services are provided at no cost to parents.

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEIA) and state regulations require the Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE), which includes a continuum of services for students who are eligible for special education and related services.

Within the HIDOE, special education services are made available to any student ages 3 to 22 who demonstrates a need for specially designed instruction, after an eligibility determination. An evaluation will determine the nature and extent of the student's needs, and includes a review of data or information that defines needs.

### **How Can a Child Be Evaluated**

Any person who has knowledge about a child and suspects that the child may have a disability and require special education services may request an evaluation at Iroquois Point Elementary School from a school administrator, teacher, and counselor or student services coordinator. A child who is suspected of having a disability is entitled to an appropriate comprehensive evaluation to determine whether the child is eligible for special education and related services. The evaluation will define the nature and extent of the child's needs. Evaluations are made up of separate assessments and data collection that cover all areas related to the suspected disability. These can include, where appropriate, health, vision, hearing, social and emotional status, general intelligence, academic performance, communication skills and motor abilities.

If a student is eligible for special education, services are provided to the student through an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

### **Individualized Education Program (IEP)**

An IEP is a written statement about the educational program for a child with a disability. It serves as a management tool used to ensure that the child receives the needed special education and related services. It also serves as an evaluation device when used to determine the extent of the child's progress toward accomplishing projected goals. It includes:

- a statement of the child's present levels of educational performance;
- a statement of annual goals, including short-term instructional objectives;
- a statement of the specific special education and related services to be provided;
- the extent that the child will be able to participate in regular educational programs;
- the projected dates for initiation of services and the anticipated duration of the services; and
- appropriate objective criteria and evaluation procedures and schedules for determining, on at least an annual basis, whether the objectives are being achieved.

### **Parental Involvement & Other Support Services**

Parents are an integral part of their child's education. This is especially true for students with special needs who have an IEP. Parents provide integral information about their child's strengths, weaknesses, and progress that can be used to develop an appropriate educational program.

The HDOE also provides parents of children with special needs resources to other local support services.

Community Children's Council Office  
1177 Alakea Street, B-100  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone: (808) 586-5363  
Toll Free: (800) 437-8641  
Website: [www.ccco.k12.hi.us](http://www.ccco.k12.hi.us)

Hawaii Disability Rights Center  
1132 Bishop Street, Suite 2102  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone: (808) 949-2922  
Toll Free: (800) 882-1057  
Website: [www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org](http://www.hawaiidisabilityrights.org)  
E-mail: [info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org](mailto:info@hawaiidisabilityrights.org)

Learning Disabilities Association of Hawaii  
245 N. Kukui Street, Suite 205  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
Telephone: (808) 536-9684  
Website: [www.ldahawaii.org](http://www.ldahawaii.org)

Special Parent Information Network  
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101  
Honolulu, HI 96814  
Telephone: (808) 586-8126  
Website: [www.spinhawaii.org](http://www.spinhawaii.org)  
E-mail: [spin@doh.hi.gov](mailto:spin@doh.hi.gov)

Hawaii Families as Allies  
99-209 Moanalua Road, Suite 305  
Aiea, HI 96701  
Telephone: (808) 487-8785  
Toll Free: (866) 361-8825  
Website: [www.hfaa.net](http://www.hfaa.net)  
E-mail: [hfaa@hfaa.net](mailto:hfaa@hfaa.net)

Information taken from:

- Special Education: Is It For Your Child? Hawaii State Department of Education.  
[http://doe.k12.hi.us/special education/speditforyourchild.htm](http://doe.k12.hi.us/special%20education/speditforyourchild.htm)
- HIDOE website:  
<http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/SpecializedPrograms/SpecialEducation/Pages/home.aspx>
- Procedural Safeguards Notice for Parents and Students Under The Individuals With Disabilities Education Act and Hawaii Law and Regulations – Based on the U.S. Department of Education’s Model Form: Procedural Safeguards Notice