



## **KINCUMBER HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING DIFFICULTIES POLICY**

(Reviewed April 2011)

A slow learner is a student who has significant learning difficulty which is likely to inhibit future learning and the further development of living skills. This policy emphasises what needs to be done to assist the student rather than on categorising labeling.

The 'Aims of Secondary Education' document states that 'for a significant number of students the mastery of basic verbal and numerical skills presents a problem. The modes of learning and associated motivation for these students need continuous assessment.'

Learning difficulties develop over a number of years and they adversely affect the confidence, motivation for these students and the development and implementation of effective programs.

### **The student with learning difficulties should;**

- Be treated as an individual who can learn.
- Acquire adequate communication skills.
- Be able to achieve functional levels of literacy and numeracy.
- Develop a positive self concept.

Students with learning difficulties need to be referred to the Learning Support Team (LST) for assessment and an Individual Education Plan which may include STLA support in class or by withdrawal.

The Support Teacher Learning Assistance (STLA) has a major role in identifying, testing and supporting students with learning difficulties. This includes

- analysis of NAPLAN testing to identify individual students not meeting national benchmarks
- liaising with Year 6 classroom teachers through the Kincumber Learning Community transition process
- liaising with year advisers and other teachers to identify students who falling behind in class
- organising reading tests for all Year 7 students and as required by the school Learning Support Team
- working with school counsellors to identify underlying problems
- organising classroom or withdrawal support for identified students
- supporting classroom teachers in modifying curriculum delivery and assessment processes
- planning, monitoring and evaluation of Individual Learning Plans
- liaising with parents
- organising the application for appropriate special provisions for public examinations and in school assessment which may include readers, writers, extra time, rest breaks, etc