

LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM (Junior and Senior High)

Purpose:

Where one is available, the purpose of the Life Skills Program is to develop in students the attitudes, desires, interpersonal skills and knowledge necessary for entry into the occupational and general life of the community insofar as it is possible. Students will work towards developing skills necessary to function as independently as possible in the community and to the best of their ability.

Objectives:

1. To provide appropriate communication skills using a variety of techniques that are appropriate for the student.
2. To develop attitudes and behaviours that are appropriate in today's society and congruent with future needs
3. To provide self-help and life skills that will promote independence for each student
4. To broaden the student's knowledge and awareness of community resources
5. To develop functional academic skills that will promote independence for each student
6. To develop prevocational and vocational skills by providing work training and community work experience
7. To develop leisure and recreational skills
8. To develop problem solving skills to help students make appropriate choices for today and the future

Program Design:

Students involved in the program are on Individualized Program Plans (IPP) which are developmental and continuously progressive. Focus is on the following domains:

- Communication
- Self-help
- Independent Living
- Functional academics
- Prevocational and vocational skills
- Leisure/Recreation
- Physical education
- Problem solving
- Personal/Social Skills
- Community awareness

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Students in the Life Skills Program will receive an Individualized (I) program based on their individual learning requirements. Instruction is provided in small group or individually. An Individualized (I) designation is used for students whose cognitive disability is so significant that department approved curricula even with significant modifications, cannot meet his/her learning requirements. The Individualized (I) program designation refers to a full year program and requires an Individualized Program Plan (IPP). Students receive a report card that reflects their achievements based on their IPP.

Functions of Life Skills Teacher:

- To provide functional adaptive and academic assessments for the purpose of program planning
- To develop Individual Program Plans (IPP) for students assigned to the program
- To provide individual and/or small group instruction of an ongoing nature to assigned students
- To supervise, provide materials and direction to teacher assistants assigned to the program
- To organize work placement sites and community awareness outings
- To be part of the transition out school process for each student
- To work in consultation with clinicians and other agencies in planning of present and future programs

Entrance Guidelines:

- A systematic assessment of student's educational needs
 - Psychological/developmental
 - Academic
 - Adaptive
- Parental consultation and agreement
- Placement recommendation by school personnel
 - Teacher, Principal, Clinicians, Coordinator of Student Services
- Availability of space in the program

Graduation Diploma:

Graduating students will be issued a graduation diploma with a statement of program completed by the student attached to the diploma.

Approved March 22, 1998
Reviewed October 18, 1994
Revised June 19, 2001