Cloverleaf Elementary School
Special Needs Policy

Our Philosophy

We believe that all learners have unique needs to consider when helping them meet their academic and non-academic goals. We create support systems and instructional approaches which address the individual needs and learning styles, including those with special needs (Special Education and Academically Gifted Students). We value and support a diverse community of learners.

We will

- Allow access to the Primary Years Programme for all students
- Outline support structures available to support all levels of learners
- Align and unite resources to support needs along the IB continuum
- Outline roles and shared responsibility of all stakeholders

Our Practice

Differentiation

Through differentiation practices of modifying the content, process and products, we strive to meet students at their levels and move them forward in their learning and discovery. Teachers identify the most effective strategies to target student learning needs based on their formative and summative assessment data. Student needs are met through the use of dynamic groups, tiered lessons, and practices based on student learning styles, abilities and interests. These practices allow for a focus on targeted instruction fostering growth in the student, both socially, emotionally, academically and physically to meet the needs of the whole child.

Student Supports

We follow the Multi-Tiered System of Support model adopted by the Iredell Statesville Schools. This model is the starting point to assist students who may need additional supports for learning in order to meet grade level expectations. As interventions are implemented, data is collected to determine next steps. Progress is monitored and interventions adjusted based on the student's response to instruction. Specially trained interventionists work with groups of at-risk, high needs students to close academic gaps, using both push-in and pull-out models. Staff works collaboratively to individualize instruction and address learning gaps. This model is available for both academic and behavioral student needs.

Academically gifted students are also supported. We follow the district guidelines for identification and levels of services as outlined in the Iredell Statesville School AIG Plan posted on the ISS website. Instructional decisions are also made based on relevant data.

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District Level Exceptional Children's Pre-Kindergarten Class at Cloverleaf

We currently have two district-level classes at Cloverleaf, one being an Exceptional Children's Pre-Kindergarten. Because these students do not participate in the traditional curriculum of the school, their participation in the PYP differs from traditional students. Teachers in these classes incorporate the Learner Profile and other essential elements of the PYP Curriculum as appropriate for their students, including the Concepts, and Approaches to Learning. Inquiry learning is emphasized and incorporated as strategies to encourage students' abilities to self regulate.

District Level Exceptional Children's Cross-Categorical Class at Cloverleaf

This class contains students from grades 3,4, and 5 who are served by the regular NC Standard Course of Study curriculum, and whose learning challenges require a smaller class size and more individualized instruction. Teachers in these classes incorporate the Learner Profile and other essential elements of the PYP Curriculum as appropriate for their students, including the Concepts, and Approaches to Learning. Inquiry learning is emphasized and incorporated as strategies to encourage students' abilities to self regulate.

District Level Partnership with Homeschooling Families: Iredell-Statesville Schools iAcademy

The Iredell-Statesville Schools' iAcademy initiative is housed at Cloverleaf in our mobile complex. The Cloverleaf campus is centrally located, making it an ideal location for this program which serves families from all over Iredell County. For more information regarding iAcademy, click the link below:

https://www.issnc.org/schools-programs/iacademy/iacademy-elementary

While the district-level Exceptional Children's classes and iAcademy are a part of the Cloverleaf community, they function as district-level initiatives. Teachers and students do not fully participate in the Primary Years' Programme. Teachers do receive an overview of the IB-PYP so that they may incorporate the Learner Profile and central tenets of international mindedness into their teaching.

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