



INCLUSION POLICY

Benjamin Elijah Mays High School and Jean Childs Young Middle School IB Partnership

Benjamin Elijah Mays High School and Jean Childs Young Middle school follows all federal and state guidelines in teaching students with specialized learning needs and believes that all IB Programmes should be accessible to all students. Inclusion is based not solely on differentiation, but also addresses barriers to learning by creating optimal learning environments. These environments celebrate and embrace learner diversity through adherence to the following:

- using technology that is accessible to all learners;
- developing collaborative learning activities that include shared goals and involve all members of the school community;
- promoting Approaches to Learning that develop affective and metacognitive skills;
- encourage students to view learning as a lifelong activity they do for themselves in a proactive way; and
- creating accessible assessments in terms of design, content and medium which includes differentiation and Universal Design for Learning (UDL)-a framework for curriculum development that provides all students with equal opportunities to learn (Pletser & Parasuram, 2016).

STATE AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

The Benjamin E Mays High School and Jean Childs Young Middle School meets all state and federal requirements: IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act; Assistive Technology Act.

STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibility of school:

- The school will work with the Atlanta Public Schools Department of Special Education to ensure the program is compliant with federal and local laws regarding students with specialized learning needs.
- The school will allow any student to participate in the IB program and provide assistance and support when needed.
- The school will provide resources for implementation and the facilitation of appropriate accommodations as outlined by the Atlanta Public Schools Special Education Programs Policy.

Responsibility of Faculty:

- Inclusion Student Education personnel will provide updates, host meetings, and support students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and 504 Plans
- Teachers will follow student IEP and 504 plans to ensure success in the program and provide accommodations as outlined by the students' IEP or 504 plan.



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- Teachers will participate in training/professional development pertaining to the Specialized Education Program.
- Teachers and Inclusion Student Education personnel will maintain accurate records of students' progress and academic standing.
- All faculty and staff will maintain discretion and confidentiality when providing special education services.

Responsibility of Parent:

- Parents will play an active role in their child's education by participating in annual Individual Education Plan meetings.
- Parents will have knowledge of and communicate their child's rights, accommodations, and all documentation regarding their child's special education needs.
- If a student needs additional assistance for IB assessments, the parent will notify the IB Coordinator (CP/DP) and provide documentation needed for IBO accommodation requests. (IBO will review the information and make the final decision).

Responsibility of Student:

- Students will take an active role in their learning, by participating in classes and meetings.
- Students will be proactive and communicate with school faculty and staff if additional assistance and support is needed.
- Students will follow all Atlanta Public Schools and Benjamin E. Mays High School and Jean Childs Young Middle School IB policies and procedures.

Responsibility of the IB Coordinators:

- The IB Coordinator (CP/DP) will apply to the IBO for student accommodations for IB assessments if notified by the student and parent of a specific need. Documentation will need to be provided by the student or parent in order to proceed with the request.
- The IB Coordinator (CP/DP), in conjunction with the Special Education Lead Teacher (SELT) and school Testing Coordinator, will provide examination accommodations as needed and approved by IB.
- The IB Coordinator(s) (MYP/CP/DP) will work collaboratively with faculty and staff to support students with specialized learning needs.

SUMMARY

Benjamin E. Mays High School and Jean Childs Young Middle School aims to encourage access into the IB program by identifying and removing barriers to inquiry learning. Policies that govern inclusion through federal, state, and local school district legislation are honored through implementation of IB pedagogy that promotes all students' exposure to individualized teaching and learning.

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