

Speas Global Elementary School
An Authorized IB World School offering the Primary Years Programme
Inclusion Policy
Adopted: June 2021

The purpose of this document is to clarify understanding of the inclusive nature of our IB Primary Years Programme at Speas Global Elementary. Our Inclusion Policy is a constantly evolving document that reflects our students' unique needs. Our Inclusion Policy applies to the whole school and is to be communicated to and understood by all continuing and new teachers, students, parents, and administrators. It is directly linked to our mission statement which is:

The Speas Global learning community educates each child with knowledge, skills, and attitudes while inspiring collaboration, inquiry, innovation and action. In our pursuit of wisdom through an international curriculum, second language development and character development, we empower students to successfully engage in our increasingly globalized, rapidly changing world.

Philosophy:

We believe that all learners have unique needs to consider when helping them to make progress toward their academic and non-academic potential.

Practices:

To provide access to the IB Primary Years Program, we apply approaches to teaching and support systems that address the individual needs and varied learning styles of students. This includes but is not limited to students who qualify for special education, English learners, and gifted and talented services. By recognizing the diversity of our collective learning community, we support the development of internationally-minded people.

Teachers extend learning for all students by creating an affirmative and responsive environment that considers student identities and embraces learner diversity from a strength-based perspective. Teaching and learning is differentiated and scaffolded to meet our students where they are socially, emotionally, and academically.

In 2016, the IB stated that "inclusion is an ongoing process that aims to increase access and engagement in learning for all students by identifying and removing barriers." We strive to do the following things in our classrooms to make this possible:

- Create optimal learning environments that embrace the diversity of all learners
- Use technology that is accessible to all learners
- Develop collaborative learning activities that involve all members of the school community
- Provide differentiated support and guidance for all learners
- Encourage students to view learning as something they do for themselves

Resources:

<http://blogs.ibo.org/blog/2016/08/26/what-is-inclusion/>

Primary Years Programme: From Principles into Practice, The Learning Community, Published 2018

https://resources.ibo.org/pyp/works/pyp_11162-51464?lang=en

Learning diversity and inclusion in IB programmes, 2016

https://resources.ibo.org/ib/works/edu_11162-38434?lang=en

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