

---

# PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME

Bloomfield Hills Schools



Bloomin' Preschool  
Lone Pine Elementary School  
West Hills Middle School

---

## 2014-15 Special Needs Policy

### International Baccalaureate Programme Standards and Practices

#### Standard A: Philosophy

The school's educational beliefs and values reflect IB philosophy.

- A.9: The school supports access for students to the IB programme(s) and philosophy.
- A.9.a: The school implements the Primary Years Programme as an inclusive programme for all students.

#### Standard B1: Leadership and Structure

The school's leadership and administrative structures ensure the implementation of the IB programme(s).

- B1.5 The school develops and implements policies and procedures that support the programme(s).

#### Standard B2: Resources and Support

The school's resources and support structures ensure the implementation of the IB programme(s).

- B2.8: The school provides support for its students with learning and/or special education needs and support for their teachers.

#### Standard C1: Collaborative Planning

Collaborative planning and reflection support the implementation of the IB programme(s).

- C1.6: Collaborative planning and reflection incorporates differentiation for students' learning needs and styles.

#### Standard C3: Teaching and Learning

Teaching and learning reflects IB philosophy.

- C3.3: Teaching and learning builds on what students know and can do.
- C3.3.a: Teaching and learning addresses the competencies, experiences, and learning needs and styles of students.
- C3.10: Teaching and learning differentiates instruction to meet students' learning needs and styles.
- C3.10.a: The school provides for grouping and regrouping of students for a variety of learning purposes.

## ***Mission Statements***

The mission of Bloomin' Preschools is to promote a warm, safe, and healthy environment. We believe in educating the whole child, in an environment that promotes self-confidence, risk-taking, creativity, and independence.

The mission of Lone Pine Elementary School is to provide a safe, nurturing environment in which students achieve personal and academic excellence, demonstrate integrity, caring and responsibility, and become empowered, internationally-minded citizens and lifelong learners.

The mission of West Hills Middle School is to ensure academic excellence, promote an enduring passion for learning, and encourage global citizenship while celebrating the success of each individual learner.

## ***Introduction***

This document is designed as a statement of philosophy and beliefs, and as a source of information for our community on Special Needs programming and support throughout the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme continuum at Bloomin' Preschool at Lone Pine, Lone Pine Elementary School, and West Hills Middle School.

## ***Philosophy and Beliefs***

We recognize and respect that our students come from a variety of backgrounds, cultures, and levels of life experiences. The diversity of student backgrounds contributes to our school community and inspires teachers and students to be caring and open-minded. Multiple teaching strategies are employed to differentiate instruction so that all students have equal access to the curriculum. Many of our students have special academic, physical, social or emotional needs that are addressed so each student can be successful.

## ***Definition of Special Needs***

Special needs encompassed by this policy include but are not limited to:

- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Emotional Impairments
- Speech and Language Impairments
- Visual Impairment
- Hearing Impairments
- Physical Impairments
- Health Impairments
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Cognitive Impairments
- Academically Talented

## ***Special Needs Programs, Services, and Staff***

Special needs are addressed by the following supports:

- General Education Resource Program (GERT)
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Special Education Resource Room (RR)
- Academic Resource Program (ARP) (Self-contained Special Ed.)
- Functional Resource Program (FRP) (Self-contained Special Ed.)
- Project Find
- Special Education Early Development (SEED)
- Physical Therapy (PT)

- Occupational Therapy (OT)
- Speech and Language Therapy (S/L)
- Social Work (SW)
- School Psychologist
- Counselors (4th - 8th Grade)
- Oakland County Consultants
- Bloomfield Hills Teacher Consultants
- Extended School Year - (ESY)

## **Practices**

Students with special needs are provided access to the curriculum in the least restrictive environment. For some, that means a self-contained classroom or mainstreaming for part of the day. However in many cases, this is a regular, comprehensive classroom where classroom teachers and specialists collaborate following an inclusive approach. Teachers/Specialists assess the children to determine each child's individual needs and provide any special services and/or materials they require. Teachers collect and analyze data, monitor progress and facilitate setting/updating goals with the students and parents.

At Bloomin' Preschool, Lone Pine Elementary, and West Hills Middle School we adhere to federal and state guidelines governing the education of students with disabilities, The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA). It is designed to protect the rights of students by ensuring that everyone receives a free, appropriate, public education regardless of ability level. Furthermore, IDEA strives not only to grant equal access to students with disabilities, but also to provide additional special education services and procedural safeguards.

Bloomin' Preschool, Lone Pine Elementary, and West Hills Middle School uses a three tiered intervention program. This three tiered framework provides intervention and educational support for all students at increasing levels of intensity based on their individual needs. The goal is early intervention to foster success for all students. Our model is as follows:

### **Tier One:**

- Teacher meeting with student
- Home contact
- Teacher meeting with student and parents
- Consultation with the classroom teacher (before/after school, lunch)
- GERT before school drop in
- Referral to counselor
- Parent/Counselor meeting
- Differentiated Instruction/Instructional
- Counselor or Social Work Groups
- Referral to Building Instructional Team (BIT)
- Teacher initiated behavior plans
- Other accommodations

### **Tier Two (in addition or in place of Tier One interventions):**

- GERT check-in (AM/PM)
- Changes in schedule (co-taught math class, schedule modification, etc.)
- GERT screeners
- Academic support (GERT, ESL)

- Instructional accommodations
- Ongoing parent contact
- 504 plan accommodations
- Referral for Special Education evaluation
- Special Education testing
- BIT update as needed
- Other

***Tier Three (in addition or in place of Tier One and Two interventions):***

- Curriculum modifications
- Special Education Resource Room programming (pull-out or push-in)
- ESL programming pull-out or push-in
- Academic Resource Program (ARP) or Functional Resource Program (FRP) self-contained classroom programming
- Center based program referrals
- Other

***Additional accommodations available:***

- Assistive Technology
- Small Group Instruction
- Scribe
- Reader
- Extended Time
- Prompting and Cueing
- Reading Grade Level Appropriate Materials
- Simplified Directions
- Paraphrasing
- Behavioral Modifications
- Organizational Support
- Alternate Testing Environment
- Accommodated/Modified Materials
- Modified Grades
- Homework Support
- Paraeducator Support

***Least Restrictive Environment***

All students have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the school community including IB Programmes and extra-curricular activities. The extent to which students with identified special education needs or 504 plans participate in the IB Programmes is defined by the following:

- Individualized Scheduling
- Progress Monitoring
- 504 Plan Accommodations
- Individual Education Plan (IEP)

## Compliance

Bloomin' Preschool, Lone Pine Elementary, and West Hills Middle School documents our compliance to state and federal guidelines in working with students with special needs through our counseling, GERT, ESL and special education departments which are overseen by building administration and the district's Director of Special Education. Individuals in these departments are responsible for the annual writing and updating of Individual Education Plans (IEP) and 504 Plans. All information regarding the progress and performance of these students is contained in the student's personal cumulative folder found in a secured location in the main office.

## More Information

More information regarding the Bloomfield Hills Schools special needs programming may be found here: <http://www.bloomfield.org/departments/special-education/index.aspx>

### Special Needs Policy Review

Bloomin' Preschool at Lone Pine, Lone Pine Elementary School, and West Hills Middle School staff will review the Special Needs Policy annually.

- This document was created by the PYP/MYP Special Education Staff at Lone Pine & West Hills Spring of 2014
- This document was reviewed by all staff June of 2014
- This document was reviewed by special needs staff October 2014
- This document was reviewed by the Lone Pine & Bloomin' Preschool Leadership Team March 2015