Dear Parents

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) School Students with Disability

All parents of Citipointe students should read the attached copy of a Government letter regarding the NCCD. (Further information can be found at www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability).

In 2015, the Australian government requires all schools to commence a collection of data for students with a disability.

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) provides Australian schools, parents, education authorities and the community with information about the number of students with disability in schools, where they are located and the adjustments they receive.

In 2014 the College prepared for this new requirement and believes it will be advantageous to teachers, students and our parents in highlighting individual student’s needs.

For parents and the College, the definition of “Disability” has been made more inclusive under the Australian Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005. Therefore more students will be counted in the data collection as the definition now relates to adjustments that the College might make to accommodate a student who has a disability in the Physical, Sensory, Cognitive and Social Emotional category.

The national data collection on students with disability reinforces the existing obligations that schools have towards students under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005.

It counts the number of students who are supported under these obligations based on the professional judgement of teachers and their understanding and knowledge of their student.

Those students already verified will continue to be supported with some Federal and State funding but there is no additional financial support for other students or for the College in the administrative work the new requirements impose.

In the primary school:

From 2015 the learning support and special education departments will combine.

The Primary Student Care Team of Mrs Karen Conwell, Mrs Suzanne Smith, Mr Paul Staines, and Mrs Jodi Blackwell will meet regularly with the Student Support Co-ordinators: Mrs Julie-Anne Staines (Preparatory-Year 3), Mrs Rita Rosehr (Years 4-5) and Mrs Michelle Jones (Year 6).

Support and adjustments will be provided as necessary in class and/or through withdrawal programs usually during language education classes.

In the secondary school:

Mrs Colleen Mills, Director of Teaching and Learning, will continue to oversee the appropriate provision for all student learning needs. Mr Neil Shuker, Director of Student Care, will continue to oversee the social/emotional needs of secondary students. If a student has a diagnosis under any of the categories defined in the NCCD, appropriate adjustments will be discussed with both parents and
students and communicated to classroom teachers, the Heads of Learning Areas and the Heads of Year where applicable. A data collection process will ensure these adjustments are made and monitored. The Secondary Care Team (Mrs Mills, Mr Shuker, Mrs Karen Conwell and Mrs Suzanne Smith) meet regularly to review the interventions and management plans for each student. The intent is to make the process useful to students and their parents, increase student engagement in learning and ensure more opportunities for success during senior schooling and beyond.

The secondary school has two Additional Needs Teachers (Mrs Megan Wright and Mrs Magdel Muller) who will provide, where necessary, in-class support and additional support in a timetabled ‘Study and Work’ class in Years 7-10. These teachers are assisted by three teacher aides who will continue to support both teachers and students to have equitable access to and assessment of the curriculum.

Further information is available at: http://www.schooldisabilitydatapl.edu.au

Your co-operation is needed and would be appreciated as we move towards this new structure and reporting.

Parents who have any objection to their child being included in the Data Collection should advise the Registrar in writing during Term 1, 2015.

Sincerely

Mrs Sue Moore
Registrar

15 January 2015