



HSC Exam Disability Provisions

5/9/15

Vision Statement

Hunter School of the Performing Arts (HSPA) provides a creative learning environment where excellence is nurtured to enable all students to perform at their best.

Context

HSPA is a highly successful K-12 public school where all students gain entry via an audition process in dance, drama, music or related area.

Rationale

Disability provisions are granted by the Board of Studies to students sitting the Higher School Certificate examinations in order to address the effects of a special need on examination performance. Regardless of the nature of the special need, the provisions granted are solely determined by the implications of that need on examination performance. Provisions include braille papers, large print papers, use of a reader and or writer, extra time, rest breaks.

General Principles

Students who wish to apply for disability provisions should see the Head Teacher (Welfare), Year Adviser or School Counsellor. The School Counsellor can assist you in determining whether or not you qualify for special provisions.

The application will be prepared by the Learning and Assistance Teacher and will:

- Indicate the provisions for which the student is applying.
- Indicate how the disability affects the student's work in the classroom and in examination situations.
- Supply evidence of the student's disability. The school may conduct a range of assessments to diagnose any learning difficulties and will invite parents to attend a learning support team meeting.
- If the student is unable to obtain an appropriate diagnosis, then other detailed information will need to be submitted to establish the existence of a disability. In this case it is necessary to provide: details as to why the student cannot obtain relevant documentation and diagnosis, a reasonable history of the student's difficulty and needs (including previous and current in-school support), and detailed teacher comments which indicate the impact of the student's condition on their classwork and in examinations.

Once the Board of Studies has received the application, a letter acknowledging receipt is issued to the school and the application is processed at the Board of Studies. The Board of Studies has a Panel of Specialists that includes medical practitioners, educational psychologists, and consultants for the visually or hearing impaired. The category of the disability and the evidence presented will determine who reviews the file.

When a decision has been made, a decision letter listing the approved and/or declined provisions is issued to the school with a copy for both the principal and the student.

Related Documents/Information

- [BOSTES Disability Provisions](#)

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This policy will be formally reviewed as part of the School's Strategic Plan review cycle, and/or if HSPA circumstances change, and/or if any changes are made to relevant NSWDE policy/procedures.

- End of Policy -