The following is a summary of St. Vincent’s Special Needs Services School Program policies and practices concerning student management. Please review the information.

**Introduction:** All activities and interactions between staff and students at St. Vincent’s Special Needs Services must be consistent with the mission of the organization and comply with the Declaration of Rights of Persons Served and Responsibilities of Staff.

**Mission:** St. Vincent’s Special Needs Services seeks to foster the physical, educational, spiritual, emotional, and social development of persons with disabilities so they may play, learn, work and live in the community.

**Rights of Persons Served:**
In fulfilling the Mission of this organization, we recognize that every person receiving services by the St. Vincent’s Special Needs Services has certain inalienable rights which include:

- The right to privacy of person and confidentiality of personal information;
- The right to be addressed in positive language and manner;
- The right to express and to receive consideration for personal opinions, choices and decisions;
- The right to experiences which are age-appropriate and reflect individual interests and preferences;
- The right for every opportunity to become as independent as possible.

**Responsibilities of Staff:**
We believe that we, who provide service in the name of St. Vincent’s Special Needs Services, have certain inalienable responsibilities, which include:

- The responsibility to promote each of the aforementioned rights in every interaction with individuals receiving services;
- The responsibility to report any observed incident of abuse or deprivation of the rights of any individual receiving services;
- The responsibility to increase our knowledge and skills in the care, education, treatment and training of individuals receiving services;
- The responsibility to perform our work according to the quality standards of the organization and our respective professions.

**Interactions with Students**
Students are expected to be addressed in language that is positive and supportive. Materials used will, to the extent possible, be age appropriate and reflect interests and preferences of individuals using them. All interactions with individuals receiving services should be reflective of respect and consideration for the individual’s opinion and right to make choices and decisions. Every opportunity will be used to allow individuals receiving services to function as independently as possible.