

Utsuho Academy Accessibility and Special Support Policy

1. Philosophy of Inclusion

Utsuho Academy (hereinafter referred to as “the School”) is a Well-being Community School that practices inquiry-based global education fostering “relational skills,” “inquiry skills,” and “creative skills.” It provides a learning environment where all children can maximize their individuality and potential. We believe every child has the right to fully participate in, grow through, and succeed in their learning. This philosophy aligns with the principles of inclusive education, removing barriers in learning, instruction, and assessment to create an environment where all children can learn equitably.

2. Definition of Inclusion

Inclusion means respecting children's diverse backgrounds, abilities, and needs, enabling their full participation in educational activities. This encompasses various factors. At our school, we define inclusivity as “a continuous process aimed at ensuring all children can fully participate in learning, grow, and succeed.”

3. Practices of Inclusivity

Utsuhono Mori Academy practices inclusivity through the following methods:

- Building Collaborative Learning Environments: We foster collaborative environments where staff, parents, and the community work together to support children's learning and growth.
- Respecting Cultural Diversity: Incorporating culturally responsive materials and activities so children from diverse backgrounds can learn while valuing their own identities.
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Adopting accessible materials and instructional methods that accommodate diverse learning styles.
- Building Inclusive Relationships Using Choice Theory: Utilize Choice Theory to understand that the types and intensity of needs vary from person to person, fostering a foundation for mutual acceptance of diversity.
- Providing Individualized Support: Offer Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and support as needed, providing assistance tailored to each child's needs.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- Faculty and Staff: Responsible for understanding all children's characteristics and learning needs, and providing appropriate support.

- Parents: Support children's learning and growth, and collaborate with the school.
- Children: Actively participate in their own learning and cultivate an attitude of respect for others.
- School Community: Foster an inclusive culture and pursue continuous improvement.

5. Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed annually by a committee comprising representatives of faculty, parents, and students, and revised as necessary. It shall also reference the latest research trends to continuously enhance inclusive education.

Enacted: August 20, 2025