

What are Inclusive Education Services?

Inclusive Education Services are the supports provided to students who require academic or social-emotional learning support, or who have medical or mobility difficulties. There are two aspects to this service.

Inclusive Support: Students may receive support for either academic or social-emotional challenges. It takes place both in and outside the classroom, sometimes in small groups, or sometimes individually. This support is provided by a variety of individuals at your child's school.

Assessment: In addition to classroom-based assessments, the school team may complete standardized testing, to get a clearer picture of a student's learning or behavioural needs.

A great deal can be learned about a student through thoughtful observation and classroom assessment. Successful supports and interventions for students are implemented without the need for a more formal assessment to occur.

Where a deeper understanding of a student's needs is required to fully understand your child's needs, they are referred to the school based team, and a more formal achievement or cognitive assessment may be recommended. This would be completed by either the student support teacher or a district psychologist.

School teams regularly collaborate with outside supports, such as medical doctors or counsellors. Your child's classroom teacher can help facilitate consent agreements to allow this information sharing to occur.

Funding for Services

Funds used to support students with additional needs come from a number of sources. The Ministry of Education provides per-student funding for the school district. This is supplemented by the Special Needs Grant, which is generated through the designation of students in special needs categories, as well as portions of special purpose Community Link dollars, the Ministry's recent equity of opportunity grant as well as locally sourced revenue (e.g. International Student Revenue).

These monies allow the district to support a variety of supports and services for students, including: Specialist Teachers, Counsellors, Education Assistants, Speech and Language Services, School Psychologists, Inclusion Support Coordinators, as well as assessments and other educational resources.

The school district works with school teams to identify students with unique and additional needs. The support and intervention a student receives is determined by the school team, in collaboration with their family.

School administrators work hard to balance the needs of individual students with the needs of the school overall, and assistance may be provided for students with and without a formal ministry designation. The amount of support an individual student receives is based on their individual needs. Designation in a particular category does not result in a specific number of support hours being assigned to that student.

We are always working to balance support with fostering independence, to ensure that all of our students are safe, happy and learning.



WHAT ARE INCLUSIVE EDUCATION SERVICES?



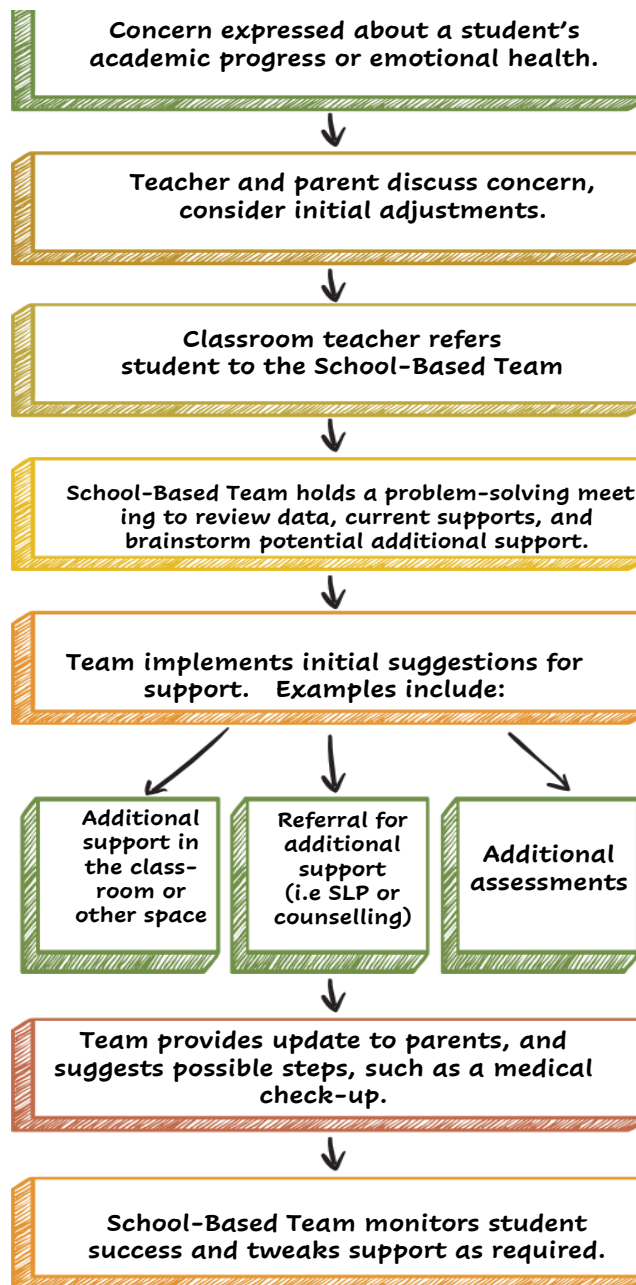
Inclusive Education Supports

The Inclusive Education Team is the group of specialists who collaborate with classroom teachers and families to establish and monitor the interventions, goals and strategies being put in place to help your child be safe and successful at school. For some learners, this also involves the creation of an Individualized Education Plan or Learning Plan.

- **An Inclusion Support Teacher** works with your child's classroom teacher to provide support to your child and co-ordinate your child's support plan.
- **Education Assistants** are assigned to learning environments and provide additional support to a variety of students.
- **Additional support** from a Speech Language Pathologist, English Language Learning Teacher, School Psychologist, or Child, Youth & Family Support Worker, may also be recommended.
- **District support** is also available for students with hearing and visual impairments.

Referrals for these services are made through your child's classroom teacher to the School-Based Team. **Your child's teacher is the best place to begin when you have a question or concern.**

The **School Based Team** is the school committee that works to determine the supports and interventions for individual students. **If you have a concern, begin with a conversation with your child's teacher.**



Counselling Support:

School counsellors facilitate social-emotional and behavioural support for learners at school (i.e. self-regulation, friendships, anxiety in the school setting).

Where a student is experiencing difficulties across a variety of settings, or is presenting with a need requiring more intensive, individualized support, the school's counsellor will work with the student and family, to refer the student to an outside service provider.

Support with Supervision and Personal Care:

Additional support may be provided for students who require support to be safe when playing outside, or for those with personal care needs.

Please ask your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns.

Learning Environments at School:

Your child's **key learning space** is his or her classroom.

Other learning spaces are provided when an alternative environment is needed for small group or individual support with specific, targeted skills. We are always working to provide students with the best learning environment to meet their individual needs.

