Support in our Schools for your Child with a Language Impairment

A student with a language impairment has moderate to severe difficulty in the areas of oral and/or written language. Their challenges may appear in one or more of the following areas:

- understanding language (listening)
- expressing themselves due to problems in areas such as grammar and/or vocabulary (speaking)
- social language skills (pragmatics)
- reading and/or writing

A speech impairment is different from a language impairment. Not all students with a language impairment will have a speech impairment.

Where to Start

A formal assessment completed by a Speech-Language Pathologist. Assessment results will be reviewed by a TLDSB Speech-Language Pathologist to determine if results meet TLDSB criteria.

You can Help your Child by...

- understanding your child's strengths and needs in the areas of oral and written language
- recognizing your child can be successful with appropriate supports and strategies
- understanding and contributing to your child's IEP
- learning when, where, and how the use of technology will help your child in school
- advocating at school by participating in meetings, opportunities for discussions, and parent-teacher events

Students with language impairments are all unique learners and a variety of resources are available to support their needs within Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

Next Steps

Individual Education Plan (IEP)

A student may require "Accommodations" and/or "Modifications" to the curriculum. Accommodations may include special teaching, supports, and assessment strategies. Accommodations keep the student working at their grade level. Modifications are significant changes to the number of curriculum expectations and/or change to the grade level at which the student is working.

Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC)

A student may be formally identified through an IPRC process. Please see the Special Education Program page at tldsb.ca for more information. Students do not need to be identified to access special education support.

Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT)/Department Head of Special Education

The elementary school Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) or secondary school Department Head of Special Education supports the needs of students who require assistance beyond that provided by the regular classroom teacher. This assistance can be direct to the student or providing programming support to the classroom.

TLDSB Specialized Services Staff

TLDSB Speech-Language Pathologists provide individualized programming suggestions and strategies based upon assessment results.

Assistive Technology

Technology can sometimes be an effective tool to assist students with a language impairment. The speech and language assessment will determine if technology would be an effective tool for the student.

More Information

For more details, please visit **tldsb.ca/programs/special-education** or contact your child's school.

Information provided to you by TLDSB's Special Education Advisory Committee in collaboration with the TLDSB Specialized Services Department. If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact Communication Services at info@tldsb.on.ca.

Community Partners and Resources

Five Counties Children's Centre (Preschool services)
Lindsay Office
9 Russell Street East
Lindsay, ON | K9V 1Z7
705.324.1922
1.888.706.4734

Minden/Haliburton Office
6 McPherson Street
Minden, ON | K0M 2K0
705.286.0737
fivecounties.on.ca

One Kids Place (Preschool Services)
One Kids Place Children's Treatment Centre
100 Frank Miller Drive
Huntsville, ON | P1H 1H7

Muskoka and Parry Sound Preschool Speech and Language Services
1.866.232.5559
onekidsplace.ca

College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO)
caslpo.com

Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders (OAFCCD) oafccd.com

Speech-Language & Audiology Canada (SAC)
caslpa.ca

The Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (OSLA) osla.on.ca