

Support in our Schools for your Child with a Physical Exceptionality

Individuals with physical exceptionalities may require special assistance in learning situations to provide the opportunity for educational achievement equivalent to that of students without exceptionalities, who are of the same age or developmental level.

Students identified with this exceptionality may exhibit some or all of the following:

- A permanent or long-term physical or medical condition which limits physical functioning and requires sustained assistance to perform physical and social tasks
- A chronic health need for which a great deal of assistance is required for activities of daily living such as lifting and positioning, personal care supports and/or other health supports in school
- A requirement program modifications relating to an orthopaedic and/or physical handicap

Where to Start

Parents are important partners in education. Information from home will assist in appropriate programming and planning. If your child has a physical, medical, or chronic health condition which will affect their learning, please bring this information to the attention of the school principal. A copy of your child's medical assessment or diagnosis from a regulated health care professional is requested. It is also helpful to share copies of reports or assessments prepared by medical professionals who have supported your child, such as a Physician, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, or Speech Language Pathologist.

You can Help your Child by...

- Following the direction of your health care professional(s) to ensure your child's medical needs are monitored properly
- Providing your child's teacher and applicable staff with any updated reports from health professionals
- Maintaining positive, open communication with the school staff
- Communicating with professionals if you notice anything different in terms of your child's health needs and/or any struggles they may be encountering
- Advocating at school by participating in meetings, opportunities for discussions, and parent-teacher events

Next Steps

Accessibility in Schools

Trillium Lakelands District School Board is committed to providing all people with accessible services and opportunities that are free of barriers and biases. We focus on engagement and achievement for all students. We are committed to the principles of independence, dignity, integration, and equality of opportunity for all student. If you have a question about accessibility in schools, it is important to speak with your child's principal.

Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC)

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

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.

School Health Support Services

For some students, the provision of health support services (including preventative strategies) or emergency response for medical conditions may be necessary to support student attendance at school. Board staff are able to assist with physical procedures such as lifting and positioning; assistance with mobility; feeding; toileting (including clean intermittent catheterization); diapering; and general physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy as programmed by a trained professional. In situations where specific medical procedures are required during the school day, the school will obtain parental consent to make a referral to the Community Care Access Centre for School Health Support Services.

Special Education Equipment and Assistive Devices

Depending on your child's specific needs, specialized equipment may be required. Such equipment is recommended by a qualified professional so that your child can access the Ontario Curriculum and/or as a means to show their learning.

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. The SERT or secondary school Department Head of Special Education administers the 'School Health Support Services Screening Tool' to facilitate a referral to the Community Care Access Centre.

More Information

For more details, please visit tlds.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.

Community Partners and Resources

Community Care Access Centre - Central East
(serving Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County)
Haliburton Branch
13321 Hwy. 118
Box 793
Haliburton, ON | K0M 1S0
705.457.1600

Lindsay Branch
370 Kent Street
Lindsay, ON | K9V 6G8
705.324.9165
<http://healthcareathome.ca/centraleast/en>

Community Care Access Centre - North Simcoe
Muskoka
Barrie Branch
15 Sperling Drive
Suite 100
Barrie, ON | L4M 6K9

Huntsville Branch
8 Crescent Drive, Suite B-3
Huntsville, ON | P1H 0B3
1.888.721.2222
<http://healthcareathome.ca/nsm/en>

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 Children's Treatment Centre
100 Frank Miller Drive
Huntsville, ON | P1H 1H7
1.866.626.9100
onekidsplace.ca

Closing the Gap
395 Centre Street North
Huntsville, ON | P1H 2P5
1.855.687.8707
1.877.560.0202
closingthegap.ca

