



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Background

Evergreen Catholic Schools is a welcoming Christ-centered learning community. All students are respected as gifts from God and have opportunities to develop and learn as a result of the care and education provided by professional teaching staff, parents and the community. The Division is dedicated to providing a continuum of supports and services for all students including students with diverse needs. Through a continuum of universal, targeted and intensive individualized supports and services, school learning teams work collaboratively to identify and meet the needs of learners.

Procedures

1. The Superintendent or designate and the Principal shall establish each year the numbers and kinds of specialized instructional programs needed based upon the following considerations:
 - 1.1 The academic, physical, emotional and social needs of the students.
 - 1.2 The number of students requiring a particular program.
 - 1.3 The availability of appropriate facilities.
 - 1.4 The availability of qualified staff.
 - 1.5 Program costs.
 - 1.6 Other factors significant to a specific program.
2. Provision of programming and services in Division schools is governed by the principles of inclusion and the tenets of the Division's Catholic beliefs.
3. Placement of students in specialized programs will be determined by the Principal and/or designate in meaningful consultation with the parent. The Superintendent, Director of Student Services, and/or other Division staff may be able to resolve conflicts regarding student placement in specialized programs and further advise.
4. Program development, implementation and evaluation will be consistent with Alberta Education guidelines and/or approved curricula.
5. Programs for all students are to encourage inclusion into the least restrictive environment with the first option, in consultation with parents, being the attendance area school.
6. Specialty programs for students are to involve parents in the development and implementation of a student's program.



7. Specialized programs will be evaluated in accordance with the program evaluation policy, guidelines and procedures.
8. The specific process is as follows:
 - 1.7 All referrals for further assessment, such as outside agencies and/or individual assessment outside of regular classroom practice must have parental consent.
 - 1.8 Parents must be informed of assessment results and recommendations by appropriate personnel.
 - 1.9 Written parental permission is required before a student is placed in a specialized program and parents must be informed of any program change.
 - 1.10 Placements will be reviewed annually by the Principal.
 - 1.11 The teacher, along with appropriate personnel, will develop an individual program plan for each student who requires specialized programming, and this plan will be reviewed and signed by parents.
 - 1.12 Individual program plans must be developed within a reasonable length of time.
 - 1.13 Student progress will be regularly evaluated in terms of stated objectives and reported to parents.
 - 1.14 Support services will be available to help with the development, implementation and evaluation of all specialized programming.

Reference: Section 3, 11, 16, 33, 52, 53, 56, 196, 197, 204, 222 Education Act
Student Record Regulation 71/99
Early Childhood Services Policy 1.1.3
Education Placement of Students with Special Needs
Policy 1.6.1 Special Education Policy 1.6.2
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12
Standards for Special Education