

What services does the TDSB offer English Language Learners?

- The Literacy Enrichment Academic Program (LEAP) in 36 elementary and 14 secondary schools for students with limited prior formal education
- Translation and interpretation services
- Four Newcomer Reception Centres, providing initial assessment for newcomer students in secondary school
- First Language Assessments (in over 40 languages) for newcomers whose academic success may be at risk, or who may have special needs
- Partnerships with provincial settlement workers in schools to assist newcomer families and students



How can I support my child's learning?

Get involved and help your child become successful by:

- Communicating with the teacher/school/your child about their work and progress
- Attending Meet the Teacher Nights and Parent Teacher Interviews
- Reviewing and discussing report cards with your child and their teachers
- Learning about provincial testing (EQAO) in Grades 3, 6, 9 at www.eqao.com
- Being patient and supportive: learning a new language takes time!
- Getting tips in 15 languages on helping your child with reading, writing, and math at: www.edu.gov.on.ca/abc123/
- Taking your child to your local Toronto Public Library branch

For more information, please contact:

Your Child's Teacher at: _____
Your Child's School at: _____

Or please visit the TDSB Website:

www.TDSB.on.ca



What is ESL/ELD support?

Most students can read and write in their first language when they arrive in Canada but may have limited English skills. **English as a Second Language (ESL)** programs help students learn English so they can participate fully in the curriculum and school life with their English-speaking classmates.



Students who receive **English Literacy Development (ELD)** support arrive in Ontario schools with limited prior access to formal education. ELD programs help students develop literacy skills in English. They also gain academic knowledge in various subject areas such as mathematics and social studies.

What ESL/ELD support is available for elementary students?

- A range of program models, support, and assistance is available to ESL students
- Depending on the school, students have access to:
 - >Specialized half-day classes for newcomers
 - >On-site ESL teachers who support students in learning English
 - >Itinerant (travelling) ESL teachers who support children in a number of schools

Should I continue speaking our first language with my child?

ABSOLUTELY! Research shows that children who have a strong foundation in their home language achieve greater success at school and in our global society.



What ESL/ELD support is available for secondary students?

Five ESL and five ELD courses, designated according to levels of proficiency in English and literacy development, **not by grade**

ESL and ELD courses are open (meaning students can continue to all post-secondary pathways)

Students may substitute up to **three** ESL or ELD courses for compulsory English credit requirements for their diploma

Additional ESL/ELD credits may be counted as optional credits for their diploma

Specially-adapted courses in history, science, career studies, civics, and other compulsory subjects



What are the benefits of ESL/ELD programs?

- Students gain the ability to use English at school to achieve academic success
- Students develop the ability to use spoken and written English to communicate effectively in a variety of situations
- Students are better able to participate in the social, economic, political, and cultural life in Canada and in their own community
- Students gain an increased appreciation of their own, and other, cultures, backgrounds, and languages

