



Section P:

Provincial and Demonstration Schools in Ontario

We value your feedback! Please click this [feedback link](#) to leave your comments on the Special Education Plan. All feedback must be received by February 28, 2027.

Purpose of the Standard

To provide the public with information about the Provincial and Demonstration Schools that are operated for students who are Deaf, blind, or deafblind, or who have severe learning disabilities, which may include attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

The Ministry of Education operates Provincial Schools and Demonstration Schools throughout Ontario for Deaf, blind, deafblind, and students with severe learning disabilities. Access is usually by way of an IPRC recommendation. Provincial Schools and Provincial Demonstration Schools:

- Are operated by the Ministry of Education
- Provide education for students who are Deaf or blind, or who have severe learning disabilities
- Provide an alternative education option
- Serve as regional resource centres for students who are Deaf, blind, or deafblind
- Provide preschool home visiting services for students who are Deaf or deafblind
- Develop and provide learning materials and media for students who are Deaf, blind, or deafblind
- Provide school board teachers with resource services
- Play a valuable role in teacher training and provide learning materials/media for students who are Deaf or deafblind (and to develop these resources)
- Provide school board teachers with resource services and teacher training for teachers in Ontario school boards
- Provide alternate format materials through Alternative Education Resources for Ontario (AERO)

Demonstration Schools

Each provincial Demonstration School has an enrolment of forty students. The language of instruction at the Amethyst, Sagonaska, and Trillium schools is English; at Centre Jules-Léger, instruction is in French. Application for admission to a provincial Demonstration School is made on behalf of students by the school board, with parental consent. The Provincial Committee on Learning Disabilities (PCLD) determines whether a student is eligible for admission. Although the primary responsibility to provide appropriate educational programs for students with learning disabilities remains with school boards, the Ministry recognizes that some students require a residential school setting for a period.

The Demonstration Schools were established to:

- Provide special residential education programs for students between the ages of 5 and 21 years
- Enhance the development of each student's academic and social skills
- Develop the abilities of the students enrolled to a level that will enable them to return to programs operated by a local school board within two years

In addition to providing residential schooling for students with severe learning disabilities, the provincial Demonstration Schools have special programs for students with severe learning disabilities in association with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). These are highly intensive, one-year programs.

The Trillium School also operates Learning for Emotional and Academic Development (LEAD), a special program for students with severe learning disabilities who require an additional level of social/emotional support.

An in-service teacher education program is provided at each Demonstration School.

This program is designed to share methodologies and materials with teachers of Ontario school boards. Information about the programs offered should be obtained from the schools themselves.

Application for admission is made by the TDSB with parent consent, and eligibility is determined by the Provincial Committee on Learning Disabilities.

School	Address	Phone/Fax
Sagonaska School	350 Dundas Street West, Belleville, ON K8P 1B2	Tel: 613-967-2830 Fax: 613-967-2482



School	Address	Phone/Fax
Trillium School	347 Ontario Street South, Milton, ON L9T 3X9	Tel: 905-878-8428 Fax: 905-878-7540
Amethyst School	1090 Highbury Avenue, London, ON N5Y 4V9	Tel: 519-453-4408 Fax: 519-453-2160
Centre Jules- Léger	French Language School 281 rue Lanark, Ottawa, ON K1Z 6R8	Tel: 613-761-9300 TTY: 613-761- 9302/9304 Fax: 613-761-9301

The TDSB presently has 3 students attending the Trillium School.

Provincial Schools

Provincial Schools for the Deaf

Provincial Schools for the Deaf include Ernest C. Drury School (Milton), Robarts School (London), Sir. James Whitney School (Belleville), and Centre Jules-Leger (Ottawa).

These schools provide elementary and secondary school programs for deaf students from preschool level to high school graduation. The schools use the Ontario curriculum, and parallel courses and programs provided in school boards.

Each student has their special education needs met as set out in their Individual Education Plan (IEP). Admittance is determined by the Provincial Schools Admission Committee in accordance with the requirements set out in Regulation 296.

Schools for the deaf:

- Provide rich and supportive bilingual/bicultural educational environments which facilitate students' language acquisition, learning, and social development through American Sign Language (ASL) and English
- Operate primarily as day schools
- Provide residential facilities five days per week for those students who do not live within reasonable commuting distance from the school

Each school has a Resource Services Department which provides:

- Consultation and educational advice to parents of Deaf and hard of hearing students and school board personnel
- Information brochures
- A wide variety of workshops for parents, school boards, and other agencies

- An extensive home-visiting program delivered to parents of Deaf and hard of hearing preschool students by teachers trained in preschool and Deaf education.

School	Address	Phone/TTY/Fax
Ernest C. Drury School	255 Ontario Street South Milton, ON L9T 2M5	Tel: 905-878-2851 TTY: 905-878-7195 Fax: 905-878-1354
Robarts School	1090 Highbury Avenue, P.O. Box 7360, Station E, London, ON N5Y 4V9	Tel/TTY: 519-453-4400 Fax: 519-453-7943
Sir James Whitney School	350 Dundas Street West, Belleville, ON K8P 1B2	Tel/TTY: 613-967-2823 Fax: 613-967-2857
Centre Jules- Léger	French-Language School for the Deaf 281 rue Lanark, Ottawa, ON K1Z 6R8	Tel: 613-761-9300 TTY: 613-761- 9302/9304 Fax: 613-761-9301

The TDSB presently has 11 students attending Ernest C. Drury School and one student attending Sir James Whitney School.

Provincial School for Visually Impaired, Blind and Deafblind Students

W. Ross Macdonald School (Brantford) is a residential school operated through the Ministry of Education and provides education for students who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind. It provides an educational alternative placement for students who are blind, visually impaired, or deafblind. The school:

- Provides a provincial resource centre for students who are visually impaired and deafblind
- Supports local school boards through consultation and the provision of special learning materials, such as braille materials, electronic texts, and large-print textbooks
- Offers professional services and guidance to ministries of education on an interprovincial, cooperative basis

Programs are tailored to the needs of the individual student and:

- Are designed to help students learn to live independently in a non- sheltered environment
- Follow the Ontario curriculum developed for all students in the province
- Offer a full range of courses at the secondary level
- Offer courses in special subject areas such as music, broad-based technology, family studies, physical education, and mobility training
- Are individualized, to offer a comprehensive life skills program
- Are delivered by specially trained teachers
- Provide home visiting for parents and families of preschool deafblind students to assist in preparing these students for future education

School	Address	Phone/Fax
W. Ross Macdonald School	350 Brant Avenue, Brantford, ON N3T 3J9	Tel: 519-759-0730 Fax: 519-759-4741

The TDSB presently has 11 students attending W. Ross Macdonald School.

Transportation

Provincial schools operate primarily as day schools with transportation provided by school boards. The provincial schools work with the TDSB transportation department to arrange transportation for students attending their day program. Residential facilities are offered from Monday to Friday for students who live too far from the school for daily travel. When necessary, an attendant is provided.

For more information about Demonstration Schools or Provincial Schools, contact:

Ministry of Education Provincial Schools Branch
255 Ontario Street
South Milton, ON L9T 2M5
Tel: 905-878-2851
Fax: 905-878-5405