



**St. Andrews PS, Alternative Scarborough Education 1 (ASE 1)
& Willow Park JR PS Program Area Review
Questions and Answers (as of May 18, 2021)**

1. What is a Program Area Review?

A **Program Area Review** (PART) looks at the programs offered within a community or grouping of schools and identifies program gaps or space needs. It may involve looking at a range of options to increase access to programs including the establishment of new schools, introduction of new specialized programs or possible changes to grade configurations. To learn more about Program Area Reviews, please visit:

https://www.tdsb.on.ca/portals/default/ARC_helpful_info_docs/TDS130%20ParentGuardian%20Fact-revised-final-print%20version-Nov.%2020,%202017.pdf.

A PART is one of the strategies included in the Board's Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy (LTPAS), a document that was first created in 2014 and is reviewed annually. The strategy provides an approach to program and accommodation planning with a ten-year timeframe that allows for responsiveness and flexibility in a changing environment. It is a roadmap for the future that identifies future studies that could lead to Accommodation Reviews.

To learn more about the Long Term Program and Accommodation Strategy, please visit:

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Strategy-Planning/Long-Term-Program-and-Accommodation-Strategy>

Questions regarding ASE 1

2. What is ASE 1?

Alternative Scarborough Education 1 (ASE 1) is an Alternative school operated by the Toronto District School Board. Alternative schools offer smaller school environments and are ideal for students seeking an alternative to mainstream education.

The schools use non-traditional, hands-on approaches to learning the required Ontario Ministry of Education Curriculum. Each school has a distinct identity and focus.

Alternative schools are open and free to any resident of Toronto. Space is limited and students can apply to attend on [optional attendance](#). The application process is different for each

alternative school.

3. What is the focus of ASE 1?

Alternative Scarborough Education 1 (ASE 1) offers Grades 11 and 12 programs emphasizing independent study, computers and technology in the classroom integrated with its Moodle online experience, flexible timetables and a collegial learning atmosphere similar to post-secondary studies. Most students go on to post-secondary studies.

More details can be found online:

[ASE1 Brochure](#)

[ASE1 TDSB webpage](#)

[ASE 1 School webpage](#)

4. How old are ASE 1 students?

ASE 1 students are 17 to 19 years of age (Grade 11 and 12 students).

5. Will ASE 1 students be taking a bus/car/transit?

ASE 1 students use different methods to get to school including taking public transit, walking, and being dropped off by a family member. There is no onsite parking for students.

6. What is the ASE 1 student-teacher ratio?

The average ratio is 18 students to 1 teacher.

7. Are ASE 1 students currently studying virtually or are they in class?

Currently, due to COVID-19, students are studying virtually with TDSB Virtual School. In normal circumstances, the school is operated in-person with the option of taking some classes online.

8. How do Secondary Students interact with Elementary Students?

Secondary students interact with elementary students under supervision in many ways:

- Classroom volunteers for required Secondary School Community Service hours (Co-op classroom placements)
- Community service projects (Earth Day, community clean-up)
- Collaboration to support elementary students with special circumstances (assistance with snack program donations)
- Shared social work services
- Participation in school safety drills (e.g. fire drills, lockdown drills)

- Kindergarten assistants
- Reading Buddies program
- Assistant coaches – baseball, basketball, soccer

- Sports equipment assistant – prepare, organize, clean equipment and jerseys; lined sports field when required
- Assistance with set-up and running of Fun Day
- Teacher’s assistant – e.g. photocopying, preparing art materials

9. In the past, have there been issues with ASE 1 students sharing a site with another school?

The students interact with each other and teachers in a positive, responsible, and respectful manner. The students never hesitate to lend a helping hand when needed.

10. Will the secondary students share washrooms with the elementary students?

We anticipate the current washroom upstairs will need to be converted to boys’ and girls’ washrooms to be used by ASE 1 secondary students. The elementary students will utilize the washrooms on the main floor.

11. Do ASE 1 students go out for lunch breaks or recess?

ASE 1 students have a lunch break only (no recess). Like all secondary students, if they have an unassigned period, students have the option to work independently in a designated work area or can leave the school.

Questions regarding Willow Park JR PS

12. How will Willow Park Junior PS rooms be used when ASE 1 moves in? Will there be any spare rooms?

There will be spare rooms. Currently Willow Park Jr. PS has 25 full-sized classrooms. The school uses 18 classrooms. ASE 1 will use 5 classrooms. The remaining rooms will be used if needed but can easily be used as core classrooms if the space is required.

13. Will there be extra support for the administration of Willow Park Junior PS or will ASE 1 operate separately?

ASE 1 will operate separately. Principal Denis Lopes will oversee all ASE 1 program and staff needs. There is also a curriculum leader always on site at ASE 1 who is the direct day to day liaison with the Willow Park JPs Principal. Willow Park JPS currently has a Principal and Vice Principal assigned to their school for the fall of 2021-22. Based on past experience with

secondary alternative schools in elementary sites, this provides the necessary administrative support for both schools.

14. Have you accounted for out-of-boundary students who use the childcare and attend Willow Park Junior PS?

The current optional attendance policy does allow for students enrolled in school-based licensed child care centres to have the option of attending the school in which the child care is located where there is no access to, or available space in licensed child cares feeding into their local school.

The projected enrolment at Willow Park Jr. PS does factor in some growth. Currently at Willow Park, classrooms are not full and more students could be accommodated into the existing classrooms. For example, the 4 Kindergarten classrooms could accommodate up to 116 Junior and Senior Kindergarten students and current enrolment projections anticipate about 100 students.

15. How will dismissal time work? Will the elementary students have to walk through crowds of high school students?

The dismissal time for ASE 1 students will be earlier. Moreover, ASE 1 students will enter and exit through their own designated door (Door 10 on the Willow Park Junior PS floor plan). Elementary students will not have to walk past any secondary school students to exit the building.

16. How will fire drills work?

Fire drills will work the same as always. Safety is key. All students will use the nearest exits to leave the building. Practice drills will be held together so everyone knows what to do in the event of an emergency.

17. When will ASE 1 be moving into Willow Park Jr. PS?

The proposal is September 2022.

18. When will the renovations be done?

The renovations to accommodate the needs of ASE 1 are anticipated to be planned to occur during the summer months to limit potential disruption to students during the school year.