

# Support in our Schools for your Child with Behavioural Concerns

Behavioural concerns impact a student's ability to be successful in an academic classroom. This may be due to social and/or emotional factors. Behaviours may be one or more of the following:

- anxious (excessive fears, avoidance, etc.)
- lack of self-regulation (disorganization, sensory concerns, etc.)
- social conflict (threatening, intimidation, bullying, etc.)
- explosive (violent, physical aggression, etc.)
- oppositional (uncooperative, resistant, defiant, disobedient, etc.)
- communication (what are they trying to say, etc.)

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

- acting out or withdrawn behaviours
- lacking social awareness or social skills
- lack of motivation
- low self-esteem
- challenges with Communication

## Where to Start

Parents are important partners in all aspects of education. Communication and consistent strategies are crucial when working with children with behavioural concerns. Information from home will assist in appropriate programming and planning. Meeting regularly with school staff and including community organizations wherever possible will ensure a consistent, coordinated support system for your child.

Information is collected by the school to identify when behaviour is affecting academic performance. An assessment by a medical doctor, psychologist, or psychiatrist that identifies or describes behavioural difficulties may also be required. Students with behaviour exceptionalities vary in need. There are a variety of resources available to support their needs within TLDSB.

## Next Steps

### Individual Education Plan (IEP)

A student may require "Accommodations" and/or "Modifications" to the curriculum. A programming page with student specific learning strategies will be developed as a part of the IEP. A safety plan may also be an important component as a proactive way to address behaviour.

### Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC)

A student may be formally identified through an IPRC process. Please see the Special Education Program page at [tldsb.ca](http://tldsb.ca) for more information. Students do not need to be identified to access special education support.

### 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 serves the needs of students who require assistance beyond that provided by the regular classroom teacher. This assistance can be direct to the student or by providing programming support such as social skills training, collaborative solutions, and positive behaviour strategies.

### TLDSB Specialized Services Staff

A variety of staff are available to help the student and the classroom teacher in implementing positive behaviour supports. This may include but is not limited to a special education consultant, a psycho-educational consultant, facilitating referrals and outside resources for Occupational Therapy or itinerant support.

### Coaching Class

A coaching class is a highly structured program to support students identified with behaviour exceptionalities. The focus is on skill and strategy development for social, self-regulation and executive functions. The goal is re-integration into the regular classroom which will occur on a gradual basis as the student acquires the necessary skills.

## More Information

For more details, please visit [tldsb.ca/programs/special-education](http://tldsb.ca/programs/special-education) or contact your child's school.

Additional resources for parents can be found at: [www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html)  
[www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/guide/specedhandbook.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/guide/specedhandbook.pdf)

*Information provided to you by TLDSB's Special Education Advisory Committee in collaboration with the TLDSB Specialized Services Department. If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact Communication Services at [info@tldsb.on.ca](mailto:info@tldsb.on.ca).*

## Community Partners and Resources

**Chimo Youth & Family Services**  
227 Kent Street West  
Lindsay, ON | K9V 2Z1  
705.324.3300  
[chimoyouth.ca/info](http://chimoyouth.ca/info)

**Point in Time**  
69 Eastern Avenue  
Box 1306  
Haliburton, ON  
705.457.5345  
[pointintime.ca](http://pointintime.ca)

**Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions**  
49 Pine Street Bracebridge  
P1L 1K8 705.645.4426  
[www.familyconnexions.ca](http://www.familyconnexions.ca)