

Special Education Secondary

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board strives to meet the educational needs of a wide variety of learners at the secondary level. The Special Education Department is committed to meeting the needs of all students to ensure they reach their full potential.

The Special Education Department offers three specific programs for identified students to support academic, vocational and personal growth and to prepare students for independent or supported living and employment settings.

The three programs are:

1. Personal Active Learning Program (PAL)
2. Community Living Program
3. Job Skills Program

What are the benefits of these programs?

- Support of smaller class size with trained personnel.
- Instruction in literacy and numeracy.
- Structured, regular routines.
- Consistent behavioural expectations.
- Instruction and practice in appropriate social skills.

Personal Active Learning Program

This program is designed to serve students in a non-credit program with intensive supports to enhance student learning. Student strengths are developed and their needs met as outlined in their IEP. These strengths and needs are met through a multi-sensory approach that includes academics, sensory awareness, augmentative communication, special physical activities, and other opportunities to enhance learning. Classes will be offered at Assumption College School in Brantford and at Holy Trinity Catholic High School in Simcoe.

Criteria for admission to the PAL Program will include:

- Non-independent.
- Cognitive level <1 percentile - moderate.
- Severe needs in receptive and expressive language, psychological development, perception, motor development, academics, and medical factors.

The PAL Program will have:

- A class size of eight (8) students.
- Extensive support of educational assistants to ensure student safety.
- A self-contained environment with integration opportunities.
- Support provided by speech-language pathologists, school child & youth worker, board consulting psychologist, and other available support staff.
- A close liaison with outside organizations regarding student programming.



Community Living Program

This program is designed to serve students in a non-credit program whose ultimate post-secondary goal is to seek supported living and supported employment in the community. Classes will be offered at Assumption College School in Brantford and at Holy Trinity Catholic High School in Simcoe.



Criteria for placement in the Community Living Program is outlined as follows:

- Partially independent – needs some supervision.
- Cognitive ability between <1st and 12th percentile - mild range.
- Moderate concerns in receptive and expressive language, psychological development, perception, motor development, academics, and medical factors that can affect learning.
- Liaison with outside agencies regarding program where appropriate.

The class will have the following:

- A maximum of twelve (12) students.
- A maximum of three (3) educational assistants.
- Speech-language pathologist and child & youth worker support when necessary.
- An environment with planned and supported integration opportunities.

Job Skills Program

This class is designed to serve students in a program which provides courses (credit and/or non-credit bearing) combined with on-the-job training, geared toward an ultimate post-secondary goal of independent community living and realistic employment. Classes will be offered at Assumption College and St. John's College in Brantford and at Holy Trinity Catholic High School in Simcoe.

Criteria for placement in the Job Skills Program is outlined as follows:

- Independent other than physical needs, (i.e. personal care) due to medical conditions.
- Cognitive ability between <1st and 12th percentile - mild.
- Minor concerns in receptive and expressive language, psychological development, perception, motor development, academics, and medical factors that will affect learning.

The class will have:

- A maximum of sixteen (16) students.
- One (1) educational assistant.
- Liaison with outside agencies as required.
- An environment that will allow for planned integration opportunities in locally developed and other credit courses.

