

Medicine Hat Catholic
Separate Regional Division #20

STUDENT SERVICES

Program Description



SUCCESS PROGRAM

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The Success Program at St. Mary's School provides students with learning difficulties and/or low average cognitive functioning with intensive support by smaller class sizes and a modified curriculum. An Individual Program Plan is developed and implemented for students in the grade 7 and 8 Success Program by the Teachers of the core subjects. The students are congregated for Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Religious Studies, Science and Health. For Physical Education and option classes, the students are integrated.

Eligibility Criteria and Referral Process

Students may be referred for the Success Program by the grade 6 Teachers or Parents. If a student is being recommended for the Success Program by the grade 6 Teacher, a Referral for Assessment form must be completed and a Parent Consent form signed by the parents. Both forms are forwarded to the Special Education Facilitator or School Administrator. The results of the assessments will be reviewed with the Parents in a meeting. If the results from the diagnostic assessment deem the Success Program would be an appropriate placement, a Consent for Admission Form will be signed by the Parents and a copy placed in the student's cumulative file and a copy provided to the Parents. Each elementary school recommending students for the Success Program would fill out a Student Referral for Success Program form and forward the form to St. Mary's School by March 1st. Parents will be expected to attend the grade six parent information night and complete the Parent Participation form.

If a student is being recommended for the Success Program while already attending junior high school, an updated diagnostic assessment must be in place. Upon reviewing the results with the Parents, a recommendation will be made to Parents for the student to transition to the Success Program, and if Parents agree, they will sign the Consent for Admission form, which will be placed in the student's cumulative file and a copy will be provided to the Parents. Upon availability, consideration may be given to enrolment in the Success Program for only some core subjects.



Eligibility will be determined by greatest need. Careful monitoring of student progress will be ongoing to determine if student placement is still the most appropriate placement. Students, who have reached a level of achievement where they would be successful in a regular program, are not meeting the requirements of the class by poor attendance, frequent incomplete assignments or behaviour inappropriate for the class may exit the program. Parental request may also result in removal from the Success Program. When the student leaves the Success Program for any reason, an Exit from Special Education Program form is completed, signed by Parents and a copy is placed in the student's cumulative file and another copy is provided to Parents.

“To gaze across a classroom full of children is to see all the hungers and thirsts that exist in human hearts. Catholic Education seeks to direct these yearnings into healthy Christian avenues.”¹

¹ Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association, *Build Bethlehem Everywhere/A Statement on Catholic Education*. (Ontario, 2002), p. 26.

