What is an IEP?
The IEP describes your child’s strengths and needs. It identifies specific learning goals and tracks your child’s progress towards achieving those goals. The plan explains the teaching strategies the school will use to support your child’s learning.

The IEP helps the teachers observe your child’s progress and provides a format to report back to you and your child about that progress.

How does the school use the IEP?
Based on the collaboration and information developed by the IEP team, the written IEP will be shared with you, teachers and support staff that work with your child.

A copy of the IEP will also be placed in your child’s file at school.

Your child’s principal and teachers are responsible for implementing the programs and services outlined in the IEP.

The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives.

~Robert Maynard Hutchins

Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
Why does your child need an IEP?

Section 15(1) Education Act

Students who, because of intellectual, communicative, behavioural, physical, or multiple exceptionalities are in need of special education programs, are entitled to receive a program outlined in an Individual Education Plan.

The IEP supports your child’s learning by:

✓ Helping teachers understand your child’s interests, strengths and needs
✓ Describing educational goals for your child
✓ Identifying strategies to support your child
✓ Helping teachers track and evaluate your child’s growth and learning progress
✓ Encouraging open and ongoing communication between you and the school
✓ Ensuring educational goals are appropriate and measureable

How is the IEP Developed?

As a parent, you are the most important member of the IEP team. The information you contribute is needed in helping the school understand your child’s personality, development, learning styles and strengths.

The principal is responsible for the IEP that is developed for your child. The school based team (SBT) within the school takes the lead role in developing the IEP. You and your child’s teachers contribute to the development of the plan. The SBT may also gather information from the following resources:

- Assessments
- Previous IEPs
- Documentation provided by the parent/guardian

The IEP Meeting

There will be at least three IEP meetings throughout the school year.

These meetings are to discuss your child’s progress and to ensure the IEP is current.

Updating and changing strategies and resources is part of the IEP process throughout the school year. Students may be invited to attend the IEP meeting at the discretion of the parent/guardian.

How do I find out about my child’s progress?

Progress will be reported during the regular reporting periods of your school.

If you have any questions regarding your child’s IEP or the IEP process, please contact your school’s principal.