Glossary/Key Terms

Emergency Medical Plan
Your child may have a medical condition that requires an emergency medical plan to be developed. This plan will outline procedures to be followed to ensure your child's safety. This plan needs to be updated at the beginning of each school year, or as the condition changes.

English Language Learners (ELL)
English may not be your family's first language. Services are available to help support communication between home and school.

Individual Education Plan (IEP)
A document prepared by the school team in consultation with the parent or guardian. This document focuses on the strengths and needs of a child that may require specialized programming. This plan is meant to support your child's well-being so they can reach their full potential at school.

Integrated Transition Plan
A plan developed by schools and community agencies with the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). It includes moving from child-centered services to adult services.

School Team
School board staff that may be involved in programming for your child. In addition to the classroom teachers, this team may include special education resource teacher (SERT), student success teacher and school principal. Other board personnel may also be part of the team, as required.

Specialized Transportation
As part of the transition process, there may be consideration for specialized transportation. This may be discussed during your son or daughter's transition meeting at school. It is important for the school to know if your child is currently accessing specialized transportation, or if you think this may be required. Students who access specialized transportation will have an Individualized Student Transportation Plan (ISTP).

Ontario Certificate of Accomplishment
Students who leave school before meeting the requirements for the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or the Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) may be granted a Certificate of Accomplishment which will accompany the student's Ontario Student Transcript.

Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)
The OSSC will be granted to students who leave school before earning the OSSD. The student must have a minimum of 14 credits (which includes 7 optional credits and 7 compulsory credits).

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
In order to earn an OSSD, the student must earn a minimum of 30 credits. Students must also complete 40 hours of community involvement activities, in addition to passing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

Resources and Community Partners

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board
705-722-3555
www.smcdsb.on.ca

Serving All Areas in SMCDSB

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
1-800-567-9604 www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Autism Ontario
1-800-472-7789 www.autismontario.com

Canadian Mental Health Association
1-800-875-6213 www.ontario.cmha.ca

Chigamik Health Centre
705-527-4154 www.chigamik.ca

Community Care Access Centre
North Simcoe Muskoka: 1-888-721-2222
Central: 1-888-470-2222
www.healthcareathome.ca

Easter Seals Ontario
1-800-668-6252 www.easterseals.org

Enaahtig Healing Lodge and Learning Centre
705-527-5324 www.enaahtig.ca/

Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario
1-866-919-5372 www.ldao.ca

Métis Nation of Ontario
705-527-1228 www.metisnation.org

Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres
1-800-722-9291 www.ofifc.org

Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services: (Special Services at Home, Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities Funding)
705-737-1311 www.mcss.gov.on.ca

Ontario Early Years Centre
1-866-821-7770 www.oeyc.edu.gov.on.ca

Ontario March of Dimes
1-800-263-3463 www.marchofdimes.ca

Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre
1-613-744-3133 www.ottawainuitchildrens.com

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
1-877-721-7520 www.simcoehealth.org

Simcoe County

211- Community Connections
1-866-743-7818 www.211ontario.ca

Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle
705-734-1818 www.banac.on.ca

Barrie Native Friendship Centre
705-721-7689
www.barrienativefriendshipcentre.com

Borden Family Resource Centre
705-424-1200 ext. 3994 www.familyforce.ca

Candlelighters Simcoe
705-737-4296 www.candlelighterssimcoe.ca

Catulpa Community Support Services
705-733-3227 www.catulpa.on.ca

Child, Youth, and Family Services Coalition
www.simcoecountycoalition.ca

Children's Treatment Network of Simcoe and York
1-866-377-0286 www.ctn-simcoeyork.ca

CLASS (Community Living Association of South Simcoe)
705-435-4792 www.class.on.ca

Community Living Huronia (Midland)
705-526-4253 www.clhmidland.on.ca

Down Syndrome Association of Simcoe County
705-817-1019 www.dsasc.ca

E3 Community Services (Collingwood)
705-445-6351 www.e3.ca

Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre
705-526-5589 www.gbnfc.com

Georgian Bay Native Women's Association
705-527-7043 www.gbnwa.ca

Kerry's Place Autism Services
905-713-6808 www.kerrysplace.org

Kinark Child and Youth Services
1-888-454-6275 www.kinark.on.ca

La Clé d'la Baie
1-877-316-6449 www.lacle.ca

Mackenzie Health: Centre for Behaviour Health Sciences
705-728-9143 www.mackenziehealth.ca

New Path Youth and Family Services
1-866-566-7656 www.newpath.ca

Orillia Native Women's Group
705-329-7755 www.onwg.org

Orillia Soldier's Memorial Hospital – Children's Therapy Services
705-325-2201 x3115 www.osmh.on.ca

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre – Child Development Services
1-800-675-1979 www.rvh.on.ca

Simcoe County Early Intervention Services
www.simcoe.ca/dpt/ccs/early

Simcoe Community Services
705-726-9082
www.simcoecommunityservices.ca

Muskoka/Parry Sound Community Living South Muskoka
705-654-5494 www.clsm.on.ca

Community Living Parry Sound
705-746-9330 www.clps.ca

One Kids Place Children's Treatment Centre
1-866-232-5559 (Huntsville)
705-746-6287 (Parry Sound)
www.onekidsplace.ca

Hands: The Family Help Network
1-800-267-5062
www.thefamilyhelpnetwork.ca

Transition Planning

Supporting students and their families as they transition to secondary school.

Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board

Welcome to our Catholic Schools

Our Mission: Our inclusive Catholic learning community is dedicated to excellence. We give witness to the teachings of Jesus Christ, as we journey in faith and learning, to develop the God-given abilities of each person.

Our Vision: Nurturing faith, illuminating minds, inspiring hearts, and empowering hands; we are working together to transform our world.

Each student is a unique gift from God with the right to an education in a caring, sharing and nurturing Catholic learning environment. Each student is a valued and respected member of his or her school community.

Inclusion is about relationships and belonging. Inclusion is about the attitudes that we have and demonstrate through our actions towards each other. Inclusion is the responsibility of everyone. Inclusion is rooted in the Gospel.

Thank-you for choosing a Catholic education for your son or daughter. We want to learn about your son or daughter's specialized transition needs. Please contact your nearest Catholic secondary school as early as possible so we can begin planning a successful transition for your child.

This guide is meant to help you and your family on your journey by providing you with some helpful information before your son or daughter registers. We are here to help you every step of the way. Working together, we will support the spiritual, academic, social and physical growth of your son or daughter.

To support your son or daugher as they move into secondary school, a **transition plan** may be developed.

Transitions that may require support include:

- Starting secondary school after elementary school
- Moving from grade to grade
- Moving from semester to semester
- Moving from school to school
- Moving from home to school; or from school to home.

The transition plan will change and develop as your son or daughter grows and moves through each grade at school. Transition planning is a team approach that includes parents or guardians, your son or daughter and the school team and may include school board support staff and community agencies.

"Make me know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths." (Ps. 25:4)

Successful Transitions for All

Goal 1

To support successful transitions into secondary school.

Goal 2

To have ongoing communication between home, school, parish and community partners.

Goal 3

To establish and review strategies and supports that are effective and beneficial for students transitioning into secondary school

Transition planning is about working together to understand and respond to your son or daughter's strengths, needs and interests.

STEP 1: What information does the school team need to know about your son or daughter?

Things to consider:
- What supports does my son or daugher currently require?
- Does my son or daughter have an emergency medical plan currently in place?
- Are there are any specific accessibility or mobility concerns?
- Is my son or daughter currently accessing specialized transportation to and from school? If not, is this something that should be considered?

STEP 2: Make a request for a transition plan meeting. This includes staff from the elementary and secondary schools. A good plan is key to positive transitioning into secondary school.

Things to consider:
- Is my son or daughter currently receiving any support services? If your son or daughter is on a waitlist for support services, please inform the secondary school. This is important information to share with the secondary school team.
- Is there any specialized equipment that needs to be transferred to the secondary school? The secondary school staff may need training for certain equipment.
- Have I provided documentation to the school team that will help with the transition into secondary school? This would include any reports with recommendations from outside services used to support programming and accommodations.
- If possible, have support services attend the transition plan meeting.
- Will we need a translator to speak with my child's school team? The school principal can access that service.
- Have we been part of a secondary school tour or attended a parent information night?

STEP 3: Discussion items for a specialized transition meeting. This is where we talk about your son or daughter's strengths, needs and interests.

Things to consider:
- What are the specific learning goals for my son or daughter? This may result in the development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP). This plan is meant to support your son or daughter's well-being so they can reach their full potential. If there is an IEP in place, this information needs to be reviewed with the secondary school team.
- What are the long-term goals for my son or daughter? If your son or daughter has complex special needs, ask the school about Integrated Transition Planning.
- The transition meeting should also focus on appropriate program pathways for your son or daughter (please see Pathways chart). Every student's pathway is unique.

STEP 4: Ongoing communication.

Things to consider:
- How will we communicate with my school team moving forward?
- Please ensure you are providing updated medical and contact information to the school and support services. Discuss timelines for transition planning with the school team.

We look forward to meeting with you and your son or daughter. Your school team is here to work with you to ensure that your son or daughter has a positive, faith-filled experience in our Catholic schools.

Pathways

Certificate of Achievement

Less than 14 credits

- **Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) Program:** at some Community Colleges
- **Community Participation Supports:** offered through private or community service agencies
- **Work Experiences:** independent, semi-independent, volunteer

Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC)

14 Credits (7 compulsory)

- **CICE Program:** at some Community Colleges
- **Community Participation Supports:** offered through private or community service agencies
- **Work Experiences:** independent, semi-independent, volunteer
- **Limited Apprenticeship Opportunities**

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

30 credits

- **University and/or College:** Degree programs
- **CICE and other Diploma Programs:** at some Community Colleges,
- **Apprenticeship**
- **Community Participation Supports:** offered through community service agencies
- **Work Experiences:** independent, semi-independent, volunteer

Common Support Services:

Some students may be receiving these services before entry to secondary school. This is important information for the school team to know. These services may include some of the following:
- Rehabilitation Services - Occupational Therapy (OT), Physiotherapy (PT), Speech-Language Therapy (including specialized communication devices)
- Autism Services - Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA), Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI)
- Counselling Services – Individual or Family
- Specialized Medical Services
- Mental Health Services
- Family Support/Resource Services.

You may be involved with a coordinating service agency that helps you to organize two or more of these services. If possible, we encourage participation of coordinating agencies in the transition process. Discuss with the agency their role in transitioning. This transition resource is designed to raise awareness about supports in our school board that promote student well-being during transitions. You are invited to inquire about initiatives for under-represented groups as we strive to meet diverse needs within our learning community.

Secondary School General Information – Items for Review

We are here to help you navigate the transition to secondary school while supporting accommodations as needed.
- All students have lockers that require locks. There are single digit locks available if needed.
- Students wear uniforms. If you anticipate any issues regarding the uniform, please contact your school as early as possible.
- There are four main instructional periods with one 40 minute lunch. Your child may be moving between four different classrooms during the day.
- There are no morning and afternoon recess breaks.
- There are two semesters, four classes per semester. Classes will change at the beginning of February. Semester one runs September-January. Semester two runs February through June.
- Visits can be arranged by contacting the school.
- Food items can be purchased in the cafeteria.
- In addition to classroom teachers, there are other support personnel in secondary schools: Guidance Counsellor, Student Success Teacher, Chaplain, Social Worker, Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT).