

# Education and Community Partnership Program (ECPP)

## Program Goal

To support students with complex social-emotional and mental health needs to stabilize, develop strategies to engage in learning and provide a supportive transition to a classroom in their community school.

The Ministry of Education (MOE) is committed to supporting all students so they have the skills to succeed in school and in life.

As an integrated part of Ontario's education system, the Education and Community Partnership Program (ECPP):

- provides critical support to meet the needs of children and youth who cannot attend school due to their primary need for care, treatment and/or rehabilitation services; and
- facilitates transitions to future education success.

Students attending an ECPP will be supported by:

- a teacher with Special Education qualifications;
- an educational assistant;
- a social service worker;
- an occupational therapist; and
- priority access to a board certified behaviour analyst (BCBA).

## Programming Priorities

- **Intensive, short-term intervention** with specialized staff in a small-group setting
- **Academic programming to close learning gaps** with a focus on language and math, following the Ontario curriculum
- **Targeted programming to support social-emotional and mental health needs** with a focus on teaching strategies to support the student's needs
- **Occupational therapy support** with a focus on assessment and intervention to support each child to engage in learning
- **Supported transitions** when the student returns to their home school

## PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Harmony Public School (Grades 3-8)  
Central Hastings School (Grades 1-8)  
North Trenton Public School (Grades 1-6)  
Park Dale School (Grades 1-6)  
York River Public School (Grades 1-6)

*Placement is determined by a Governance Committee based on available spaces and best fit for the student. In most cases and when possible, transportation will be provided.*



## ECPP Governance Committee

The Governance Committee is a multi-disciplinary team that provides support and guidance for admissions and programming for students in an ECPP. This team also helps to problem-solve and provide additional recommendations if a student is struggling within the ECPP program.

The Governance Committee is comprised of;

- representatives from Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board and Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board (including board psychologist/mental health leads); and
- representatives from Quinte Children's Treatment Centre.

## Essential Components of Education Programs

Due to the unique needs of students in ECPPs, the Ministry of Education has identified three essential education components of an ECPP:

**1. Instruction and Intervention:** ECPP students receive instruction based on individual strengths, interests and needs. Academic achievement should be considered in the context of prior academic achievement, as well as ongoing assessment of the Education Program for that student. Our priorities for instruction and intervention are literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning.

**2. Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting on Educational Achievement:** Assessment, evaluation and reporting of educational achievement for students in ECPPs will be as consistent as possible with, and informed by, Ministry of Education policies and procedures. Students may demonstrate a wide range of strengths, interests and needs. Teachers will plan programs that recognize this diversity, and give students performance tasks that respect their particular abilities, so they gain the greatest benefit from the teaching and learning process.

**3. Transition Planning:** Effective planning is especially important for students transitioning into or out of ECPPs. Personalized and precise transition plans reflect the strengths, interests and needs of each child or youth, and provide the foundation for successful transition experiences. Effective transition planning supports and improves the continuity of education, and programs and services for students.

## Parent Engagement

ECPP staff have regular communication with parents/guardians in support of students. Parents/guardians must attend monthly meetings with the school team to review student progress and next steps. Students remain at home on these review days. A schedule will be provided to families upon entry to ECPP.

*Families and ECPP teams work together as partners to share strategies. Consistency of these strategies between home and schools leads to the most successful outcomes for the student. Regular communication and parent/guardian participation are essential components to support this partnership.*

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