

# Provincial and Demonstration Schools in Ontario

## Purpose of the Standard

*To provide the public with information about the Provincial and Demonstration Schools that are operated for students who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind, or who have severe learning disabilities, which may include attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)*

## Provincial/Demonstration Schools

The Ministry operates provincial schools for deaf, blind, deaf-blind students and demonstration schools for students with severe learning disabilities. There are also specialized programs for students with severe learning disabilities as well as ADHD. Residential programs are available for those students for whom distance precludes daily travel.

### In addition, these schools

- provide an alternative education option
- serve as regional resource centres for students who are deaf, blind, or deaf-blind
- provide outreach and home visits to preschool home-visiting services for students who are deaf or deaf-blind
- develop and provide learning materials and media for students who are deaf or hard of hearing, blind or have low vision, or are deafblind
- provide school board teachers with resource services
- play a valuable role in teacher training

Applications for admission to a Demonstration Schools is made on behalf of students by the school board, with parental consent. This application is made in accordance with Ontario Schools for the Blind and Deaf regulation.

Transportation for students enrolled in Provincial Schools is arranged by school boards or Provincial Schools. Transportation for students enrolled in Demonstration Schools is arranged by Provincial Schools.

## Current Statistics (2017/2018)

School	Program	Number of students	Transportation (with escort)
W. Ross MacDonald	Blind	0	Plane
Ernest C. Drury	Deaf	0	Plane
Sir James Whitney	Deaf	5	Highway coach
Robarts School	Deaf	0	Plane
Trillium	Deaf	0	Plane
Sagonaska	Learning Disabled	0	Highway coach



## Provincial Schools for the Deaf

These schools provide elementary and secondary school programs for deaf students from pre-school level to high school graduation. The curriculum follows the Ontario curriculum and parallels courses and programs provided in school boards. Each student has his or her special needs met as set out in his or her IEP.

### Schools for the deaf

- provide rich and supportive bilingual/bicultural educational environments which facilitate students' language acquisition, learning, and social development through American Sign Language (ASL) and English
- operate primarily as day schools
- provide residential facilities five days per week for those students who do not live within reasonable commuting distance from the school

### Each Provincial School has a resource services department that provides:

- consultation and educational advice to the parent(s) of deaf and hard-of-hearing children and school board personnel
- information brochures
- a wide variety of workshops for parent(s), school boards, and other agencies
- an extensive home-visiting program delivered to parent(s) of deaf and hard-of-hearing pre-school children by teachers trained in pre-school and deaf education

#### Ernest C. Drury School

255 Ontario Street South

Milton, ON L9T 2M5

Tel: (905) 878-2851

TTY: (905) 878-7195

Fax: (905) 878-1354

[www.psbnet.ca/eng/schools/ecd/index.html](http://www.psbnet.ca/eng/schools/ecd/index.html)

#### Robarts School

1515 Cheapside Street,

London, ON N5V 3N9

Tel. and TTY: (519) 453-4400

Fax: (519) 453-7943

[www.psbnet.ca/eng/schools/robarts/index.html](http://www.psbnet.ca/eng/schools/robarts/index.html)

#### Sir James Whitney School for the Deaf

350 Dundas Street West

Belleville, ON K8P 1B2

Tel. and TTY: (613) 967-2823

Fax: (613) 967-2857 [www.psbnet.ca/eng/schools/sjw/index.html](http://www.psbnet.ca/eng/schools/sjw/index.html)



## Provincial School for the Blind and Deaf-Blind

W. Ross Macdonald School is located in Brantford and provides education for students who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind.

The school provides:

- a provincial resource centre for the visually impaired and deaf-blind children
- support to local school boards through consultation and the provision of special learning materials, such as Braille materials, audiotapes, and large-print textbooks
- professional services and guidance to ministries of education on an inter-provincial, cooperative basis

### Programs at these schools:

- are tailored to the needs of the individual student and are designed to help these students learn to live independently in a non-sheltered environment
- are delivered by specially trained teachers
- follow the Ontario curriculum developed for all students in the province
- offer a full range of courses at the secondary level
- offer courses in special subject areas such as music, broad-based technology, family studies, physical education, and mobility training
- offer a comprehensive life-skills program
- provide assistance in preparing pre-school deaf-blind children for future education

### W. Ross Macdonald School

350 Brant Avenue

Brantford, ON N3T 3J9

Tel: (519) 759-0730

Fax: (519) 759-4741

<https://pdsbnet.ca/en/schools/w-ross-macdonald/>

## Provincial Demonstration Schools

The demonstration schools provide a specialized residential program for students with severe learning disabilities whose educational needs cannot be adequately met in their local boards. It should be noted that the primary responsibility to provide appropriate educational programs for students with learning disabilities remains with school boards. These schools provide highly individualized instruction, counselling, social skills, and self-advocacy training to enable students to function effectively when they return to their community schools within two years.

Each provincial demonstration school has an enrolment of no more than forty students. The language of instruction at the Amethyst, Sagonaska, and Trillium schools is English; at Centre Jules-Léger, instruction is in French.

Application for admission to a Provincial Demonstration school is made on behalf of students by the school board, with parental consent. The Provincial Committee on Learning Disabilities (PCLD) determines whether a student is eligible for admission.



Although the primary responsibility to provide appropriate educational programs for students with learning disabilities remains with school boards, the Ministry recognizes that some students require a residential school setting for a period of time.

In addition to providing residential schooling for students with severe learning disabilities, the provincial demonstration schools have special programs for students with severe learning disabilities in association with ADD/ADHD. These are highly intensive, one-year programs.

The Trillium School also operates Learning for Emotional and Academic Development (LEAD), a special program for students with severe learning disabilities who require an additional level of social/emotional support.

Further information about the academic, residential, LEAD, and LD/ADHD programs is available from the demonstration schools through the Special Needs Opportunity Window (SNOW) website at [Special Needs Opportunity Window \(SNOW\) website](#).

An in-service teacher education program is provided at each demonstration school. This program is designed to share methodologies and materials with teachers of Ontario school boards. Information about the programs offered should be obtained from the schools themselves.

**Provincial Schools Branch  
Ministry of Education**

255 Ontario Street South  
Milton, ON L9T 2M5  
Tel: (905) 878-2851  
Fax: (905) 878-5405  
<https://pdsbnet.ca/en/>

**Amethyst School**

1090 Highbury Avenue  
London, ON N5Y 4V9  
Tel: (519) 453-4408  
Fax: (519) 453-2160  
<https://pdsbnet.ca/en/schools/amethyst/>

**Sagonaska School**

350 Dundas Street West  
Belleville, ON K8P 1B2  
Tel: (613) 967-2830 ext. 320  
Fax: (613) 967-2482  
<https://pdsbnet.ca/en/schools/sagonaska/>



**Trillium School**

347 Ontario Street South

Milton, ON L9T 3X9

Tel: (905) 878-8428

Fax: (905) 878-7540

<https://pdsbnet.ca/en/schools/trillium/>

**Francophone School for the Deaf, Blind, Deaf–Blind and for those with Learning Disabilities****Centre Jules-Leger**

281, rue Lanark

Ottawa, ON K1Z 6R8

Tel: (613) 761-9300

TTY: (613) 761-9302, (613) 761-9304

Fax: (613) 761-9301

<https://centrejulesleger.ca/en/>

