

# **PLACE**

## (Practical Learning and Community Education Program)

### **How do I know the PLACE program is right for my child?**

The PLACE program is a specialized system program designed for students with significant special learning needs who require individualized instruction and support to reach their full learning potential. Students who meet the requirements are eligible to attend this program.

### **How does the program work?**

The PLACE program provides a positive, structured, supportive learning environment for students with moderate cognitive disabilities. Programming builds literacy and numeracy skills, work skills, a work ethic, and the basic abilities needed for personal care, work, leisure and home life. The program promotes independence for each student.

### **What are the benefits of the program?**

PLACE programming helps students by providing:

- instruction in functional reading, writing and numeracy.
- structure, regular routines and close supervision.
- instruction and practice in appropriate behavior and social skills.
- smaller sized classes with high staffing ratio.
- instruction in living vocational skills with opportunities to apply these skills within the community.
- opportunities for community based instruction.
- opportunities for community based recreation and leisure.

Instruction is guided by an Individual Support Plan (ISP) and builds on individual strengths and needs, and is presented in a meaningful and practical manner.

### **How will my child's progress be monitored and communicated?**

The student, parents, and teaching staff then work together as a team to create an Individual Support Plan (ISP). Regular updates are made to the student's ISP. Parents are given opportunities to review these updates.

PST (parent/teacher/student) conferences are completed according to the school schedule. Newsletters are sent home regularly to outline classroom activities. Information regarding school activities, calendars, and conferences may be found on the school website and e-teacher pages.

**How does my child get into the program?**

Support for Students consultants in Elk Island Public Schools in conjunction with parents decides eligibility for this unique program.

All placement decisions are made by Support for Students consultants, assessments and recommendations from the current classroom teacher and other professionals.

If your child currently resides outside of Elk Island Public Schools' jurisdiction, please contact Support for Students at 780-417-8265 for information or advice.

**What happens when my child leaves the program?**

The PLACE Program is to be completed in three years. All students completing the PLACE program at Bev Facey will receive a Certificate of High School Completion from Alberta Education. A strong emphasis during the high school years is on transition planning during which time students and their parents are informed of options available to them upon graduation.