

SECTION A-1

MODEL  
FOR  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION

## SECTION A-1 MODEL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

**To provide the Ministry of Education and the public with information on the board's philosophy and service-delivery model for the provision of Special Education Programs and Services.**

The Renfrew County Catholic District School Board strives to integrate children with special needs into the mainstream of school life.

We believe regular, neighborhood schools – and whenever possible, regular classrooms within those schools – are the best, first choice for all students. All students are thereby given the greatest opportunity to participate in the life of their school community. This philosophy of inclusion is our mandate from the Ontario Ministry of Education. It is also a philosophy manifest in our claim to Catholic Christian Community.

Inclusion – attitudes and mechanisms that encourage students toward fullest possible participation in school life – allows children to play, pray and learn with their friends, in age-appropriate peer groups.

Sometimes, however, a student's needs exceed accommodation that can be practically provided in a regular classroom. In such cases, the school board strives to develop special placements that best meet the unique needs of each individual student.

As Catholics, and as educators, we accept the infinite value of all God's children. Our goal is to deliver nurturing programs to enable all students to achieve their full learning potential, equipping them to follow their individual pilgrimages with hope and bright expectations.

It is the policy of the Renfrew County Catholic District School Board to encourage full participation of parents throughout any student evaluation and planning process.

This plan has been designed in accordance with the following acts: Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Ontario Human Rights Code, the Education Act and Regulations made under this act and all other relevant legislation.