



KPR Mission:

We inspire our students to excel in learning, to succeed in life, and to enrich our communities.

KPR Vision:

We are an innovative and responsive educational community focused on student achievement, well being and success for all; we value the diversity and uniqueness of all students, employees and community members. We are ambassadors of public education.

Our vibrant Primary Communication Classes are located in all three regions within the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board

Primary Communication Class Vision

Our vision for the Primary Communication Class is to provide high-quality programming to help students gain the skills needed to access the Ontario curriculum and/or alternative programming and to engage socially in school and the community. By using evidence-based techniques, we aim to provide an engaging, enriching and stimulating learning environment in which students develop the skills they need to reach their potential and participate fully in school and in life.

Guiding Principles

1. To foster student success, we provide students opportunities to gain communication skills that will allow them to engage socially and academically at school.
2. Students require individualized programming that is responsive to their needs.

Clarington Region

Lydia Trull Public School
Waverley Public School
Newcastle Public School

Northumberland Region

CR Gummow Public School
Hillcrest Public School
Spring Valley

Peterborough Region

James Strath Public School
Otonabee Valley Public School
Westmount Public School

For further information please contact

Special Education Services:

1-877-741-4577



April 2026



Primary Communication Class



Educating for Success!



What is the Primary Communication Class?

The goals of the program are:

The Primary Communication Class is a small class placement for students in Grades 1-3, who are experiencing significant challenges with communication and who, in spite of intensive support, intervention and/or appropriate accommodations and modifications, are not experiencing significant progress in the regular classroom setting.

Goals of the program are:

- Acquisition of skills that allow students living with intense communication needs to learn effectively, socialize and communicate in school and in daily living environments.
- Providing a program and learning environment which optimizes opportunities for communication.
- Providing intensive support around the use of communication tools to increase independence in school and the community.

This intensive program consists of accommodated or modified expectations from the Ontario Curriculum, as well as alternative expectations in the areas of communication skills, social skills, learning skills and self-regulation, with the goal of generalizing these skills to the mainstream classroom or alternative class placement as appropriate, and to other areas of their daily lives.

What will be taught in the program?

The expectation for the Primary Communication Class is for students to be able to generalize their skills back in the mainstream program, or in another placement as appropriate.

The program is highly individualized and based on strengths and needs and is outlined in the Individual Education Plan (IEP). Each individualized program encompasses the following four content areas:

1. Communication Skills
 - » Expressive Communication - Speaking
 - » Receptive Communication - Listening
 - » Non-verbal Communication
2. Social Skills
 - » Cooperation Skills
 - » Flexibility/Productivity
 - » Leisure and Play Skills
3. Learning Skills:
 - » Ontario Curriculum - with an intentional focus on Literacy and Numeracy
 - » Learning Readiness
 - » Work Habits



How do I know if this is the right program for my child?

The program is designed for students who have difficulties with:

- expressive and/or receptive communication
- social interaction
- communicating wants/needs
- demonstration of learning (knowledge and understanding)
- self-regulation
- transitions

The program is designed for students who would benefit from intensive instruction to gain skills in these areas.

Before students are enrolled in the Primary Communication Class, they must first be presented at a Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board System Level Identification and Placement Review Committee (IPRC) for identification and placement. The placement will be – Special Education Class with partial integration.

Students may continue placement in PCC from grades 1-3 based on engagement in the program and documented progress.