



# **RE-ENGAGEMENT THROUGH RESILIENCE**

## **at First Place Intermediate Program.**

***Re-Engagement Through Resilience:*** *A non-rotary, calm classroom setting for students experiencing extensive difficulties attending school. The intent of the First Place Program is to build patterns of consistent school attendance, close academic gaps, develop student resilience, and foster learner confidence, with the goal of returning to a community school.*

### **Student Profile**

- A non-attending student in grade seven or eight who is experiencing academic gaps and is currently registered in an OCDSB school and require a higher tier of intervention than available in their designated school.
- Is able to work independently within a collaborative environment, and is committed to participating in the First Place Program
- Tier 1 & 2 Interventions have been attempted at their designated school as a preliminary means of engaging the student.

### **Program Features**

- Continuous intake from September to March
- Grade seven and eight programming according to Ministry of Ontario curriculum guidelines
- Small group setting in a structured environment, with clear expectations for participation and attendance
- Regular field trips, guest speakers, daily physical activity, and clubs
- Open and regular communication between family and school staff
- This is not a therapeutic program. Please consult your Multi-Disciplinary team to determine programming for mental health needs and/or for Care and Treatment programs.

### **Referral Process**

- The student is referred to the Alternate School Principal to discuss program suitability following a recommendation by the referring school's Multi-disciplinary team.
- It is important to be able to speak to evidence of Tier One and Two interventions from the sending school
- The student should have a current IEP which could be a non-exceptional IEP.
- A copy of educational, cognitive and/or psycho-educational/emotional assessments will be available to guide programming (CATIV, WIAT, WISC, Psycho-Educational Assessment, or equivalent).
- Applications submitted to the Alternate School Principal and are reviewed by the school Multi-Disciplinary team before proceeding to a site visit
- After an application is reviewed, student, parent(s)/guardian(s), and a school advocate are invited to visit the site to learn more about the program and to determine suitability
- Students start at First Place for a trial period. If the student is struggling to attend First Place, is unable to participate fully in the program, or if the program is not suitable, the team will reconvene with the referring school and family to discuss next steps
- Placements are reviewed on a regular basis. Some students will transition back to their home-school or another program during the school year
- While in the First Place Program, students remain enrolled at their referring school. Their OSR remains at the referring school
- Learning Support Teacher, Social Work and Psychological supports are provided by the referring school
- Students do not transfer from First Place 7/8 to the First Place 9 program