

## **Autism Spectrum Disorder Program**

### **Overview**

Our ASD Program is currently 1 of 6 secondary ASD programs in the Ottawa Carleton District School Board. Currently at AYJ we have two classes with six students per class. Each of our ASD classes is staffed with a Special Education Teacher and two Educational Assistants. Students are placed in our program by a Central Board Committee based on applications made by the current school through the IPRC process.

Students in our ASD Program work towards the goals and expectations set out in their IEPs. Staff work closely with parents, board staff, and educational support professionals to develop an IEP that addresses the needs of each student. Our students will graduate with a Certificate of Accomplishment. Students in an ASD program are not working towards an OSSD as they do not receive credits in this program.

The focus of this highly structured program is to promote and support the development of functional skills for daily living; speech & language, self-regulation, life skills, vocational skills, numeracy skills, and age appropriate behaviours.

In order to support the IEP goals of our students, we also engage in a number of weekly community outings. Students are able to swim at the Kanata Leisure Centre, practice their social skills and daily living skills by grocery shopping, promote their love of literacy at the Ottawa Public Library, and learn about the rules of the road through community walks. Throughout the year our students also participate in various assemblies, field trips, and community events.

### **Curriculum**

Our ASD students work through their IEP goals within the following courses: Language and Communication Development, Personal Life Skills, Personal Health and Fitness, and Numeracy and Numbers.

### **Supporting Your Student**

All of our families are encouraged to regularly review our “Connecting with Agencies” guide. It helps provide a timeline for accessing various social services starting upon entry to AYJ.

### **Teaching Staff**

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### **Learning Support Teacher**

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