

How Do I Self-Identify?

A student completes a "Student Registration Form" upon entry to school or when moving schools. This form includes details such as birth date and home address.

Effective in September, 2008, this form includes a section called Self-Identification for Aboriginal Students as shown below:

- First Nation students that live in the jurisdiction of and attend provincially funded elementary or secondary schools; and First Nation students who live in First Nation communities and attend provincially funded elementary or secondary schools under a tuition agreement
- Métis students who attend provincially funded elementary or secondary schools
- Inuit students who attend provincially funded elementary or secondary schools.

Parents or legal guardians can voluntarily check the box which best describes their cultural heritage.



Parents or legal guardians may contact the school at any time to voluntarily self-identify

Notice of Collection and Privacy of Student Information

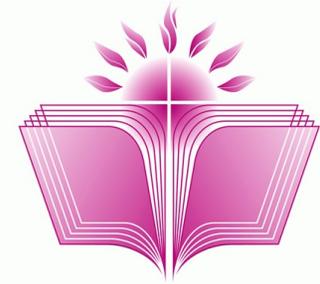
All data related to the Self-Identification for Aboriginal Students is collected by the London District Catholic School Board under the legal authority of the *Education Act* and its regulations, the Accountability Office (EQAO) and in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Data collected will be used to report overall Aboriginal student achievement to the Ministry of Education and EQAO (Note: no individual or personal student data is disclosed). The Student Registration Form including the Self-Identification for Aboriginal Students is retained in the OSR by the registering school



for five (5) years after retirement/transfer of the student. The information may also be retained independently of the OSR for Ministry of Education reporting purposes. Questions or concerns about the collection of data on this form should be directed to the principal of the school or Program Superintendent.

Bill Hall
Chair

Linda Staudt
Director



LONDON DISTRICT
Catholic School
BOARD

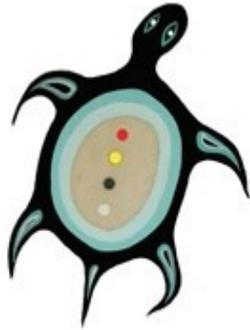


Voluntary and Confidential Aboriginal Student Self-Identification



Purpose

This brochure provides information about the London District Catholic School Board (LDCSB) policy on “Self-Identification for Aboriginal Students.”



The policy ensures the opportunity for all Aboriginal students and/or their parents and legal guardians to voluntarily self-identify so that supportive programming can be provided for them.

This policy is also available on the Board’s website, Students J1.2, (www.ldcsb.on.ca)

For more information on privacy, contact the LDCSB Freedom of Information Coordinator

519-663-2088

Background Information

“Ontario First Nation, Metis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework”

The Ministry of Education has identified Aboriginal student success as one of its key priorities, with a focus on meeting two primary goals by 2016:

1. To improve achievement among Aboriginal students
2. To support Aboriginal students in the areas of Literacy and numeracy, Graduation rates and Advancement to post-secondary studies.

In partnership with the Ministry of education, the London District Catholic School Board is expanding its focus on Aboriginal education through secondary school course development, Native language programs, resource support, and teacher professional development

To assess progress toward these goals, it is important to have both valid and reliable data. For this reason, the Ministry has encouraged school boards to develop policies, which enable Aboriginal students and/or their parents and caregivers to voluntarily self-identify.

The LDCSB policy came into effect in June of 2008.



Why Self-Identify?

The goal of the London District Catholic School Board’s voluntary, confidential, self-identification policy is to improve Aboriginal student achievement through specific program planning, targeted initiatives, resource support and the involvement of family and community in the life of the school.

The policy allows the LDCSB:

- To collect achievement data related to the performance of Aboriginal students
- To direct resources to the Aboriginal education projects that:
 - ◆ Provide high quality learning opportunities
 - ◆ Improve provincial assessment results for Aboriginal students
 - ◆ Increase Aboriginal graduation rates
- To provide information for future decision-making surrounding Aboriginal success
- To promote effective partnerships with Aboriginal parents and their communities
- To provide culturally relevant resources
- To support Native Language acquisition and retention.



*Mission Statement
Together we serve the student in a welcoming inclusive, safe, Christ-centred community that ignites a living faith and provides excellence in Catholic Education*