

A Parent's Guide to The Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRCs) and Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)

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- 2. IEP Tips and Ideas
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The Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC)



What does "IPRC" mean?



It's a noun. IPRC is the group of people – it's the COMMITTEE that makes the recommendation regarding identification and placement of a student.

However, you will hear people use IPRC as a verb:

"Has your son been IPRC'ed yet?"

And you will also hear people say IPRC when they are speaking about the IPRC meeting:

"When is your son's IPRC?"

The Purpose of the IPRC



Decide whether or not your child should be identified as exceptional (usually based on a professional assessment or report).

Identify the areas of your child's exceptionality (type of disability).

Decide an appropriate classroom placement (regular class or special education class).

Review the identification and placement at least once each school year.

Sample Letter of Invitation (YRDSB)



IPRC Letter of Invitation

Region Inter-state, 5249		
Date: March 18, 2013	Stude	ent ID: e
	entification, Placement and Revi	ew Committee (IPRC) meeting
of Based on that disc	cussion,staff will make a recomn dation will be to identify your ch , Learning Disability). As well, a	e learning strengths and needs mendation for consideration by hild as exceptional, in the area of placement in a special program
Regular Class O Indirect Service O Resource Assistance O Withdrawal Assistance	Special Education Class Partially Integrated Fully Self-Contained	Demission O Demission
identification and placement for	and Review Committee has the r your child. You will receive a c its decision prior to the meeting	copy of any documentation that
You are welcome to provide th your participation is encourage	e IPRC with any additional infored at the IPRC meeting that is se	rmation. Your attendance and cheduled for:
Date: April 2, 2013 Time: 12:00 pm Location:	Public School	
Sincerely, Principal's	Signature	✓ Parents' Guide included
I agree with the recommy comments to the som OR I will be attending the	wing two sections below and mmendation for identification an school staff and will not be atternal IPRC meeting for my child. by of the Parents' Guide to Regu	d placement. I have provided nding the IPRC meeting.
April 2/13		Guardian or Student 16 years or older
The second secon	4 - O D D 2 > C E C 2 >	Parent conv.4 > Student age 16 or over

Form NP 360-01 Distribution copy 1 > O.S.R. copy 2 > C.E.C. copy 3 > Parent copy 4 > Student age 16 or over

Barent has addays

Sample Letter of Invitation (SCDSB)



IPRC LETTER OF INVITATION TO PARENT(S)/LEGAL GUARDIAN

Date:	
Dear	,
	have previously discussed with you, a referral has been made to an fication Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) to consider:
	$\hfill \square$ The NEW identification and placement of your child as an exceptional student OR,
	☐ The REVIEW your child's present identification, AND/OR ☐ The REVIEW of your child's present placement as stated in the IPRC Statement of Decision, dated
We pl	an to hold this meeting on :
Date:	Time: Location:
	ok forward to meeting with you. You are welcome to bring someone with yo port you in representing your child.
A copy	complete the form below and return it to your child's school by yof the information package, shared with the committee, is also available fo Our Special Education Resource Teacher would be pleased to review this nation with you. Please contact the school to arrange an appointment.
	Sincerely,
	Principal's Signature
A cop	y of this letter is filed in the Ontario Student Record folder.

SE-IPRC-1-06

The information which is being requested in this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and the Education Act and its regulations, and will be used in connection with the student's enrollment, instruction, accommodation and modification, together with any ancillary or related matters under the Education Act. The contact person for inquiries

concerning collection of this information is the Principal of the student's current school

PLEA	SE RETURN THIS PORTION TO THE SCHOOL
Name	of Student:
s	I will attend the IPRC meeting on at
1	I waive the right to attend the IPRC meeting. I understand that the Committee's recommendation will be sent to me
1	I am unable to attend the IPRC meeting at the time indicated. I will call the school to arrange for an alternate, mutually agreeable meeting time.
	Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature

The information which is being requested in this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the Personal Health Information Protection Act, and the Education Act and its regulations, and will be used in connection with the student's enrollment, instruction, accommodation and modification, together with any ancillary or related matters under the Education Act. The contact person for inquiries concerning collection of this information is the Principal of the student's current school.

SE-IPRC-1-06 IPRC Letter of Invitation for Parent/Legal Guardian

Do I have to attend the IPRC?



YES

It's important to take advantage of ALL available opportunities to sit down with your child's educators.

YES

If discussion is needed regarding the proposed IPRC recommendations or decision.

NO

If your child's identification and placement are not changing; if you agree with the your child's identification and placement; if you have regular meetings with the school; if it would be difficult for you to attend.

Who attends the IPRC meeting?

✓ The IPRC <u>must</u> have at least 3 people, one of whom must be a principal or Board supervisory officer.*

The other possible attendees include:

✓ Student (if appropriate – students over 16 are entitled to attend)

- ✓ Parent/caregiver
- ✓ Teacher or Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT)
- √ Board staff member(s)
- √ Agency representatives
- ✓ Support person (optional)
- ✓ Interpreter (upon request)



^{*}For specialized classroom placements, 2 administrators need to be present, and the third attendee is usually a SERT.

What happens at the IPRC meeting?



Usually, there are no surprises at the IPRC meeting. All of the "work" is done in advance of the meeting, with the family's knowledge and involvement.



Attendees are introduced, the IPRC is reviewed, the formal decision is discussed, and the IPRC is signed.



The actual IPRC meeting usually lasts about 10-15 minutes. It is the formal acceptance of the identification and placement decision.



If there is a disagreement regarding identification or placement, or if communication has broken down, the meeting is an opportunity for the parties to share their perspectives and try to find common ground.

What is NOT discussed at the meeting?



Items in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP).



Teacher or classroom assignment, disciplinary concerns, Educational Assistant assignment, etc.



Topics not related to the identification or placement of the student.

Categories of Exceptionalities



Behaviour

Physical (physical disability, blind/low vision)

Communication
(autism, deaf and hard
of hearing, learning
disability, language
impairment)

Intellectual (developmental disability, gifted, mild intellectual disability)

Multiple Exceptionality

Placement Options



Regular class

- With Indirect Service (SERT supports teacher, in-class accommodations);
- With Resource Assistance (by SERT);
- Withdrawal Assistance (supported by SERT outside the regular classroom).

Partially Integrated

 Community Class or Student Support Services Class or Learning Centre Class, with not more than 51% of day spent in regular class.

Fully Self-Contained special education class

 The Ministry's Provincial Schools Branch oversees the policies and operations of these schools, and includes four provincial and three demonstration schools.

Placement Options



Regular Class

Special Class Placement

Indirect Service

Regular classroom with consulting support to teacher or student

Resource Assistance

Regular classroom with direct support to student (less than 51%)

Withdrawal Assistance

Part-time regular classroom and part-time special class placement (less than 50%)

Partially Integrated

Part-time special class placement (more than 50%) and part-time regular classroom i.e. Student Support Centre or Community Class

Fully Self Contained Class

Full time placement in a Provincial School

Source: YRDSB

Sample Statement of Decision (YRDSB)

egal Name: Preferred Name School:		ublic School		Student Numb Gender: M Date of Birth:	er: Grade: 02
Current Catego	ry: Communication		Current Placement:	Resource Assista	nce
Exceptionality			Exceptionality 2:		
O Initial IPRC		Review IPRC	The IPRC met on student	02/04/2013	to discuss the above
	t is: "not exceptional nmary of Student Str		is: "exceptional"	nmary of Student	Needs
sight word readi spelling gross motor community skills self help	ng (use, money, telephor	ne, computer)			
ategory: Multiple	e Exceptionality		-		
lentification(s) (verse for list of def			(2): Learning Di	sability	(See
lacement:	Regular Class O Indirect Service O Resource Assistar O Withdrawal Assista		Special Education Cl Partially Integrated Fully Self-Contained		Demission O Demission
ocation:	O Home School	Communit	ty Class	Public School	
eason for Place Self-Contained					
ecommendation	ns Regarding				
rogram and Ser	vice (optional):				
ignature of PRC Chair:		Notif	Board fication Date: 17/04/	2013 Effec	te: 03/09/2013
	Committee Memb			Others in Attenda	
11 110		CTO (quorum)			
Coil Store	ai t,				
Gail Stewa			1		
Gail Stewa					
	ation Transportation Re			60-03 completed t	by current school)
Special Educa		Fo	O Yes (Form NP3 r Board use only	60-03 completed t	by current school)
Special Educa	eted by Parents/Guar	Fo		60-03 completed b	by current school)
Special Educa	eted by Parents/Guar and agree with the deci	Fo		60-03 completed t	by current school)

Sample Statement of Decision (SCDSB)



Simcoe County District School Board

IDENTIFICATION, PLACEMENT, AND REVIEW COMMITTEE STATEMENT OF DECISION

Type of Meeting: New ⊠ or Review ☐ Date of IPRC Meeting:

Section 1	
Student:	Date of Birth: April 1, 2006
	Present Grade: Grade 2
Student Identification (OEN):	Gender: Male
School Name :	Gender. Wate
Section 2 (as on IEP) Areas of Strength:	(as on IEP) Areas of Need:
Affectionate, Happy, Enjoys the company of others, Independent engagement, Intrapersonal skills (knows own mind)	Development-task completion, Social interaction (turn taking, cause-effect, behavior), Mobility (walker, wheelchair bike)
Section 3 TO BE FILLED IN BY COMMITTEE CHAIR F	PERSON:
Category:	Identification:
Placement Decision:	
If special education class placement, give reasons:	
Recommendations:	* g = 1
IPRC Committee Members:	
(1)(2)	(3)
Meeting Date: IPRC Committee C	Chair Signature:
Parent Response to Statement of Decision:	
agree with the identification:	yes no
consent to the placement:	yes no
have received a copy of The Statement of Decision	
Comments:	yes no
Parent Signature	

Note to Parent: Should you disagree with the committee's decisions and wish to request a second IPRC meeting to reconsider the information, please write to the Principal within 15 days of receiving this form

Distribution by School: Signed original to be filed in OSR, and send one copy of Statement of Decision to each of the following: 1) absent parent (for signature), and 2) school receiving the student as a result of IPRC.

Disagree with the decision?



- Within 15 days of receiving the original IPRC decision, request to meet again. Explain the concerns.
- If cannot be resolved, within 30 days of receiving the original IPRC decision file a written notice of appeal to the Director/Secretary of the school board, or within 15 days of receiving the second IPRC decision.



If a family disagrees with the original decision but does not request a second meeting or file an appeal, the decision of the IPRC will automatically be implemented after 30 school days. A parent may request a review IPRC meeting any time after their child has been in a special education program for 3 months.



The Individual Education Plan (IEP)



What is an IEP?



An IEP is a written plan describing the special education program and/or services required by a student based on the assessment of the student's strengths and needs that differ from the expectations of the Ontario curriculum.

- a working document reviewed and updated at least once during each reporting period that identifies:
 - curriculum expectations that are modified from the grade level expectations in a particular subject or course AND/OR
 - alternative expectations in program areas not represented in Ontario curriculum
- an accountability tool to be used in conjunction with the Provincial Report
 Card with a clear connection to the Ontario Curriculum
- an ongoing record that ensures continuity of programming (term to term and year to year)
 Source: Autism Ontario

How can you assist with an IEP?



Provide copies of assessments

Discuss your child's "strengths and needs"

Recommend accommodations, things that "work" for your child

Discuss whether a safety plan is warranted



Parents are **not** responsible for creating IEP content. However, many teachers request input from parents.



IEP Tips and Ideas



ACCOMMODATIONS

Strategies to help the student access the curriculum (ex. frequent breaks, more time for tests, etc.) and do not modify the curriculum expectations.

- Be creative! And be specific to what works for your child.
- Explore other options beyond those typically used for children with a specific diagnosis.
- Strategies NOT to implement may also be included.
- Use the recommendations from professional assessments, usually found at the end of the report.
- Keep the list concise; remove items that are not practically implemented, as well as those that have been shown to be unhelpful.

Sample Accommodations

Ministry of Education, IEP Resource Guide, p.29

Instructional	Environmental	Assessment
Accommodations	Accommodations	Accommodations

Note: A typical IEP would not include all of the accommodations listed above. Only the accommodations that are specifically required by the individual student should be listed in his or her IEP.

Sensory Accommodations

adayinourshoes.com

Print Pr	kE DESK WORK EASIER ovide desk closest to teacher ovide alternate desk away from group activities sign desk at front of class tjust desk to child's height (correct placement is child's et on floor/stool with elbows resting on table) ovide rubber band around chair legs for child's feet e alternate seating options; ball, knee chair, ove-and-sit, disc-o-sit or air cushion low child to stand low child to stand low child use of weighted lap pad low frequent breaks TTING IN A GROUP low child to sit on a carpet square ark child's spot on carpet with tape low child to use chair or beanbag at child closest to teacher at child at edge of group at child at front of group low use of handheld fidget toys/manipulatives	FOR READING Allow child to read out loud Give child a book mark to h along while reading Minimize visual distractions Allow child to move/change FOR CLASSWORK Allow child to move to a quantum control of the contr	old place and help to follow on the page position/take breaks lieter area/out in hallway 11:1 Resource Room 2 problems at a time te assignments that require less writing that require less reading	ODD DODD TIP	Allow child to hold signs Allow child to wear weighted back pack Allow child to pull the lunch wagon Allow child to push adult in a wheeled chair Allow child to wipe down tables Allow child to carry books to/from the office/library Allow child to carry Xerox paper to/from copy room R SENSORY BREAKS Make child "classroom messenger" Allow child frequent trips to the bathroom or drinking fountain as needed Sing songs that encourage movement Encourage whole class stretching Allow child access to sensory tub, sand, beans, rice Do chair pushups or tailor sit pushups as a class PS FOR GENERAL SENSORY SUCCESS Give child warnings before a fire drill or other bells
Asia Asia Asia Asia Asia Asia Asia Asia	sign desk at front of class ljust desk to child's height (correct placement is child's et on floor/stool with elbows resting on table) ovide rubber band around chair legs for child's feet e alternate seating options; ball, knee chair, ove-and-sit, disc-o-sit or air cushion low child to stand low child use of weighted lap pad low child use of weighted lap pad low frequent breaks TTING IN A GROUP low child to sit on a carpet square ark child's spot on carpet with tape low child to use chair or beanbag at child closest to teacher at child at edge of group at child at front of group low use of handheld fidget toys/manipulatives	along while reading Minimize visual distractions Allow child to move/change FOR CLASSWORK Allow child to move to a question of the control of	on the page position/take breaks lieter area/out in hallway 11:1 Resource Room 2 problems at a time te assignments that require less writing that require less reading	FO ODD DOOD TIP	Allow child to wipe down tables Allow child to carry books to/from the office/library Allow child to carry Xerox paper to/from copy room R SENSORY BREAKS Make child "classroom messenger" Allow child to pass out papers Allow child frequent trips to the bathroom or drinking fountain as needed Sing songs that encourage movement Encourage whole class stretching Allow child access to sensory tub, sand, beans, rice Do chair pushups or tailor sit pushups as a class PS FOR GENERAL SENSORY SUCCESS Give child warnings before a fire drill or other bells
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OR W			at the parent's discretion		Provide 'Quite Chill' out space, under a desk, in a
or w	low child to sub-vocalize	 Decrease amount of work r 		0	corner where they can be alone and safe
OR W	low child to change position as needed (from knees, to			0	Allow noise-canceling head phones Allow gum chewing, hard candy, or other food
	raight legs, to criss/cross, etc)	FOR TRANSITIONS			Allow water bottle w/straw at desk or other chewy
	RITING	 Prepare student ahead of t 	ime verbally or with a timer	O	Allow fidget toys
	ovide a pencil grip (specify kind)	 Follow schedule as accurate 	ly as possible	0	Post visual routine in classroom
	ovide angled writing desk or slant board	 Allow child to bring a "trans 	ition toy" with them		My child is very sensitive to smells
Alv	ways provide lined paper or specialized paper	☐ Give child something to care ☐ Have child be the "door hole			My child is very sensitive to touch: Please DO NOT
	ovide visual instructions for common written tasks				TOUCH HIM/HER
	sist with brainstorming for written work				Keep visual distractions in the room to a minimum
	lp organize thoughts for long writing tasks			9	Play calming music in the background
	ve extra class time to finish	 Remind child to keep his/he Remind child about "person 			Allow modifications to art activities with possible use tools to increase participation
Pro	low the option to finish at home without penalty owide a list of common words and their correct spelling desk	FOR RECESS	al space bubble	0	Please share my child's 504 with all para-educators in contact with my child
3577	low dictation to a scribe	Do not take recess away fo	r mis hehavior in class		My child is on a special diet, you can support this by:
	low assistive technology (specify kind)		options such as monkey bars,		
I All	low child to dictate ideas into a tape recorder, then ribe his/her own words later or at home	rock wall climbing, or diggi			My child needs a modified dress code as follows:
W	arm hands up with proprioceptive work, such as	FOR HEAVY WORK - REGULAR	ACCESS ALL DAY	177	
ma	anipulating clay, before writing begins	Allow child to re-shelve bor	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF	2	CHILD'S LEARNING STYLE IS:
	Water and Different photography	Allow child to rearrange ch			Visual
	View the entire list of 500+ 30ts on ADayinOurShoes.com	Allow child to open and clo		0	Auditory Kinesthetic



IEP Tips and Ideas



PROGRAMMING PAGES

Details the current level of assessment, annual goals and expectations for each subject that is modified, as well as alternative programming.

- Accommodations change HOW the student is taught and assessed
- Modifications change WHAT is taught and assessed; might be at grade level but with decreased output, or might change the grade level being assessed.
- Alternative skills are programs not included in the Ontario Curriculum, such as social skills or personal care programs.
- Student can provide input regarding their goals in whatever format works, eg. a short video clip expressing their wishes.
- Refer to previous IEPs and report cards when reviewing your child's IEP.
- Use the <u>Ontario curriculum</u> as a guide.

Writing effective IEP goals



Specific – clear descriptions of what will be taught and how progress will be measured Measurable – you can count or observe it SCDSB's strategy* for **SMART** learning Action Words – like "apply", expectations: Realistic and Relevant – for child to be successful, and to child's assessed strengths and needs Time Limited – usually within one term or semester

Example of Annual Goal and SMART expectation, via SCDSB:

Elementary – ALT program

Annual Goal: In social skills, [student] will employ "Stop, Think, Do" or a similar technique at a rate of 7 out of 10 possible situations.

Learning Expectation: In social skills, [student] will demonstrate, through role-playing, the "Stop, Think, Do" technique and employ it or a similar technique at a rate of 4 out of 10 possibilities.

TOP 5 IPRC/IEP TIPS



- 1. Take advantage of every invitation to meet with your child's educators face to face.
- 2. Keep your eye on the Accommodations page. Work with the teacher to regularly update remove items that are not working, and add new strategies to try.
- 3. When you get a new draft IEP, pull out the previous draft, the most recent report card, and the Ontario curriculum.
- 4. Don't go for perfection. If you have faith in the teacher, the IEP needs to be "good enough".
- 5. Keep your eye on the goal: a relaxed child who is making progress at their own pace.

Helpful resources



CTN Online Resource Site

http://www.ctnsy.ca/Online-Resource-Centre/All-about-school-and-IEPs.aspx

Ministry Links

Sample IEPs from the <u>Ministry of Education - IEP Resource Guide</u>, pp. 58-84 Ontario curriculum <u>http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/curriculum.html</u>

York Region District School Board (YRDSB)

<u>Parent Guide to the Identification, Placement and Review Committee,</u> The Individual Education Plan – A Guide for Parents

Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB)

<u>Parent's Guide to Special Education</u> <u>Individual Education Plan – Helping your child achieve success in the classroom</u> <u>SMART learning expectations</u>

Community Agency Resources

Community Living resources http://communitylivingontario.ca/resources-students-and-parents/
Autism Ontario Knowledge Base http://autismontario.novosolutions.net/homekb.asp
Easter Seals Kids at School http://education.easterseals.org/

**Consider participating in school workshops by Kerry's Place, Easter Seals, Autism Ontario, etc.

Modifications and Accommodations

<u>LD@School</u> for overview of accommodations vs. modifications vs. alternative skill areas
Accommodations and Modifications, Jacki Oxley
https://specialeducationontario.wikispaces.com/file/view/Modifications+and+Accommodations+by+Jacki+Oxley.pdf