

LEADING YOUTH TO SCHOOL SUCCESS

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS

- Alberta Health Services
- Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority
- Chinook's Edge School Division
- Red Deer Catholic Regional School Division
- City of Red Deer Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Red Deer Public School District
- Wild Rose School Division
- Wolf Creek Public School Division

EDUCATION SUPPORT TEAM

The Journeys Learning Program offers daily treatment and education to youth with complex needs. A learning team is in place and includes the following:

- Teacher
- Alberta Health Services -Mental Health
- CFSA—Clinical Social Worker
- RCMP - School Resource Officer
- Educational Assistants
- Counsellor
- Psychologist
- Principal



The Journeys Learning program is a year round collaborative program developed to enhance services to youth in Central Alberta. The program is jointly funded by five school districts/divisions, the Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority and Alberta Health Services.

This program provides a specialized placement option for students 11 to 18 years old who present with highly complex developmental and behavioral needs. Children who attend this program are supported using a multidisciplinary approach to achieve success. The goal of the program is to transition the youth back into the regular school system.

To be eligible for participation the following must apply:

- Participating youth are between the ages of 11 to 18 years old.
- Youth present with highly complex developmental and behavioral needs.
- Youth have stressors in their living environments that impact educational success.
- Community schools have been unable to support youth to be successful in school.
- Less intense forms of programming have not been effective for youth.
- All resources that are currently available have been utilized with limited success, requiring more intensive supports.
- Youth have complex medical/psychiatric disorders that impact educational success.
- Youth have had academic disruptions dating back to early childhood due to medical/psychiatric factors.
- Both the home and school environments are impacted by the youth's extreme emotional, psychological and behavioral needs.
- The youth's home school jurisdiction is committed to work in partnership with the Journey program.
- Youth are being served by multiple ministries and will achieve positive outcomes through collaboration and the sharing of resources.

Note: The ten available placements will be prioritized based on the needs of youth being referred to the program.



HOW IS A REFERRAL MADE?

Referrals to the Journeys Learning Program will be initiated by the home School Division's Assistant Superintendent or Director of Student Services. This can be done in coordination with the other ministries that may be involved with the student, such as Alberta Health Services and/or Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority where appropriate.

The referral form must be completed by the home school division and forwarded to Red Deer Public School District. The application is forwarded to the intake team for consideration. The intake team consists of representatives from the partnering organizations.

PROGRAM LOCATION

The Journeys Learning Program is located in the Alternative School Centre in Red Deer, where the on-site principal and education support team will oversee the daily program. Red Deer Public Schools will provide the facility and the staff. There are ten seats available for students with highly complex needs, with the potential for growth in the future.

For additional information or for clarification about the program, please contact Student Services in your local school district or division.

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

Indicators that a youth is ready to transition back to his or her community school:

- It is determined that the student has made substantial improvement in all goal areas and is able to return to a more inclusive school setting.
- Behavioral and risk concerns have been stabilized.
- The learning team agrees that the issues that prompted involvement can be further addressed with resources made available to them in their home community.

FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES CONTACT:

Initial inquiries are to be directed to your home school jurisdiction.

General inquiries can be made to Jodi Goodrick, Assistant Superintendent, Red Deer Public Schools, (403) 342-3715.