

## **Programs and Services: An Overview**

The Special Education Department at Villanova provides ongoing support as needed for exceptional learners through our Life Skills Program and the Learning Enrichment Program. We also assist in overseeing the Locally Developed/Workplace Program and monitor the progress of exceptional students in the Applied and Academic Programs.

### ***Life Skills Program***

The Life Skills Program focuses on developing basic literacy, numeracy, life skills, social skills and vocational skills for students who have developmental disabilities. The goal for these students is to make them as independent and self-sufficient as possible upon their graduation from Secondary school. The life skills student works towards attaining a Certificate of Achievement or the Ontario Secondary School Certificate. Students can take a combination of integrated courses and non-credit Life Skills courses, also known as “K” courses. Vocational skills are introduced in the in-school World of Work component of the Life Skills Program, followed by a community-based component starting in Grade 11. Educational Assistants provide physical, behavioural, social and academic support in all areas of the Life Skills Program as directed by the Department Head of Special Education and Life Skills Teacher.

### ***Locally Developed/Workplace Program***

This program offers courses for students with Individual Education Plans who require modified curriculum. The focus of this program is to improve the student’s literacy, numeracy, organizational skills and work skills through credited courses. Students are enrolled in a combination of locally developed courses and through their IEP receive modifications in all Open level courses. In Grade 11 &12, students have the opportunity to take Workplace Co-op in order to attain vocational skills to enter the workforce after high school. Academic assistance for these students are provided by our Learning Enrichment Teachers and Educational Assistants in the classroom and/or the Learning Enrichment classroom.

### ***Applied and Academic Program***

Students who are taking courses at the Applied or Academic level and have an Individual Education Plan or Accommodation Log may also access the Learning Enrichment Program with our Learning Enrichment Teacher for learning support.

### ***Learning Enrichment Program***

Academic assistance is available for exceptional learners who have an Individual Education Plan, Accommodation Log, or who are being monitored by the Special Education Department. Learning Support Service Teachers are available to provide academic support and accommodations for tests, quizzes, assignments, Independent Study Units and daily homework in the classroom or the Learning Enrichment Classroom. Students typically remain in class for the duration of the teacher's lesson and are then sent to the Learning Enrichment Classroom for assistance when necessary. In some cases, the Learning Support Service Teachers work in the classroom alongside the classroom teacher.

**Contact Person:** For more information regarding our programs for exceptional learners, please contact Mr. Lorne Rocheleau, Department Head of Special Education at 734-6444 ext. 26.