

ISSP BACKGROUNDER

The Integrated School Support Program (ISSP) is an ambitious crime prevention initiative that is intended to provide intensive wraparound services to address a variety of needs in a diverse school and community. The goal is to **improve academic performance and the social, emotional, and physical well-being of children**. We want to enhance and make accessible the supports and resources necessary to fulfill this goal. This program is funded and managed by the Calgary Police Youth Foundation.

In August 2014, we began implementation in two elementary schools located in the Forest Lawn community, namely Patrick Airlie from the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Holy Trinity from the Calgary Catholic School District (CCSD). The selection of the schools was based on academic standing, social needs and other needs as identified by the partners. ISSP serves children and youth aged 4-12 years, their families and the community. It is our hope that the project expands, creating opportunities for infants and youth up to age 18 years old.

Our objective is to provide the necessary wraparound supports in the school, including a positive police presence, on-site psychologist, physical education teacher, social worker, access to a health clinician, breakfast and lunch programs, and after-school programs. Other long-term objectives include such things as child-care, pre-natal support and education, providing support for community projects and creating parent programs that address needs as identified by community members.

Our approach is based on the whole child perspective, which includes nutrition, fitness, mindfulness, academic success, and emotional well-being.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improved school performance among all ISSP students.
- Overall school academic scores improved compared to beginning of or preceding school year.
- Decreased anti-social behaviour in and around the school compared to beginning of or preceding school year.
- Decreased bullying perpetrated and/or experienced among students.
- Improved physical fitness among students.
- Improved nutrition among students.
- Increased resiliency and strong indicators of mental health and wellness.



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