

## Blind/ Low Vision

A condition of partial or total impairment of sight or vision that even with correction adversely affects educational performance (i.e., limited vision, blind).

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<b>CRITERIA:</b>	Students with a visual impairment.
<b>PLACEMENTS:</b>	Delivered by the Itinerant Vision Teacher: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular Class with Monitoring</li><li>• Resource in Class</li><li>• Resource Withdrawal</li><li>• Special Class, Part Time (Elementary)</li></ul>
<b>PROGRAM:</b>	Vision Program (Elementary and Secondary Panels) Delivered in home school with appropriate supports and resources
<b>SERVICES:</b>	Available at Elementary and Secondary Panels ( <i>unless otherwise indicated</i> ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speech/Language Services</li><li>• Behaviour Resource Services</li><li>• Physical Management Services</li><li>• Psychological Services</li><li>• Special Ed Consultants</li><li>• Special Ed Department Head (<i>Secondary Panel</i>)</li><li>• Vision Consultative Services</li><li>• Hearing Consultative Services</li></ul>

## **SPECIAL PROGRAM**

Students diagnosed as blind or low vision are enrolled in home school on a regular classroom register with age-appropriate peers. They have a program focused to provide required program adaptations and/or specialized instruction by a qualified teacher of the blind. The individualized program supports ongoing needs such as program accommodations, braille, use of assistive devices, and mobility training. Implementation of the program is a collaboration between classroom teacher, Core Resource (special education) teacher, itinerant Vision Resource Teacher and additional supports, as required. Mode of delivery ranges from classroom monitoring to resource withdrawal.

Each school is serviced by a resource team that supports the professionals working with these students. In addition to a vision resource teacher, this interdisciplinary team includes a special education program consultant/department head, and a representative from each of the other Board's services.

Vision Centre (Elementary only – 1 school)

- for primary and junior students who use Braille or are learning to use Braille to access the curriculum
- support students throughout their school day
- integrated into regular classroom for 90% of their week. Withdrawal occurs when required for special instruction which cannot be accommodated in the classroom setting. As well, a few students gather once weekly for part of the morning to work together on topics of common interest.