

FVSD Student Support Services

What do we do?

Student Support Services are provided to students and families of the Fort Vermilion School Division. Services provided by the Mental Health Therapists, Student Wellness Coaches and Child's Circle workers all focus on the goal of helping students be ready to learn when they enter the classroom. In order to do this, the Student Support Services staff work with children, youth and families to address risk factors and eliminate barriers to children and youth experiencing success in school and in life. Services provided may include confidential individual, group or family counselling for students and their parents/guardians, referrals to outside agencies to access therapeutic services, family support and education, support during a family crisis, program facilitation for promoting healthy living and healthy positive life choices, programs that promote positive skill building for children, youth and families as well as education for school staff about mental wellness, how to promote healthy positive mental health for self and students as well as how to address mental health issues or other risk factors in their roles in the school and classroom.

How can we make a referral?

Referrals can be made by a parent, student, teacher or community agency. The Behaviour Rating Index for Children (BRIC) is used as the initial screening tool for a referral for all students at risk and in need of services from FVSD Student Support Services. Parents/guardians need to be made aware of the referral by the initial referral source.

Upon receiving a referral, the local team of Mental Health Therapist, Student Wellness Coach and Child's Circle worker will meet to determine the next course of action. Depending on the individual situation, one or more Student Support Services may be involved with the student and family. The Mental Health Therapist or Student Wellness Coach will contact the parent or guardian to discuss the referral and obtain consent for services if it is determined that mental health supports are needed. The Child's Circle worker will contact the parent or guardian to discuss the referral, obtain consent and develop a Service Plan if it is determined that Child's Circle services are required.

After consent is obtained in the case of a student requiring mental health supports, the Mental Health Therapist and Student Wellness Coach will complete an initial assessment of the student's needs based on their social, occupational, and psychological functioning. Students with the highest level of need will be seen first.

Students may be involved in individual therapy, targeted group sessions and/or universal class programming with any or all of the Student Support Services staff as determined by their needs. Parents and guardians may also be involved in individual, targeted group and/or universal group programming depending on their needs and individual situations.

Who should be referred?

The following is a guideline of who should receive services from Child's Circle staff and who would be better served by Mental Health staff.

Child's Circle Program	Mental Health Therapist and/or Student Wellness Coach
Family Challenges	Suicidality
Anger Management	Anxiety
Bullying	Depression
Social Skills	Diagnosis of a Mental Disorder
Self Esteem	Trauma
Difficulties with peer/family relationships	Sexual Abuse
Peer Pressure	Grief and Loss
Problem Solving	Self Harm

What can I expect from the Mental Health Therapist, Student Wellness Coach and Child's Circle Worker?

Information obtained in individual and targeted group work is protected by strict rules of confidentiality. The Mental Health Therapist, Student Wellness Coach and Child's Circle worker will provide information to the school administration and/or teachers on an as-needed basis. Consultation will be provided to assist school personnel for school programming purposes.