

## **Welcome Centre Bridge Program (Continual Intake)**

The Welcome Centre Bridge Program is developed and implemented by the English Language Learner Welcome Centre.

### **Target Participants:**

Immigrant youth aged 13 to 19 years within their first 3 years in Canada, who have arrived with one or more of the following experiences/barriers:

- Significant literacy and education gaps
- Significant social and communication barriers due to language and cultural differences
- Mental and emotional issues as a result of traumatic experiences

These students may share all or some of the following characteristics and will be given priority entrance into the program:

- Recent immigrants who will not be able to complete high school requirements/graduate within the allotted time due to a lack of English language skills
- Unable to keep up with the academic opportunities offered in school due to significant settlement and integration barriers
- Are at risk of dropping out due to difficulties with “fitting in”
- Demonstrate significant challenges and shows minimal success in learning and integration (for those students who have been in the Canadian school system for more than a year)
- Committed to working hard
- Committed to developing social and individual responsibility

### **Program Goals:**

This program aims to support the participants in developing meaningful and realistic short and long-term goals either further training/education and/or career development.

In addition this program will:

- increase settlement support for at-risk/vulnerable immigrant youth
- increase school and community connectedness
- ease the students' transition into the workplace, back into the school system, or to other options

### **SD36 English Language Learner Welcome Centre**

Unit #120 - 7525 King George Boulevard, Surrey, BC V3W 5A8

Phone: 604-543-3060 / Fax: 604-592-2139 / [www.surreyschools.ca/welcomecentre](http://www.surreyschools.ca/welcomecentre)

- impart skills and knowledge to the students and empower them to overcome learning and school adjustment issues related to their immigration experience and cultural adjustment process

Students must be referred to the program by the English Language Learner Assessment Teacher, the Career Development Facilitator or District/School staff on behalf of the student.

For further information, referrals or questions about the Welcome Centre Bridge Program please contact the English Language Learner Welcome Centre at 604-543-3060.

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