

When to Contact Your Multicultural Worker

Services provided by Multicultural Workers in schools are:

- Facilitating communication between home and school through supporting school staff in arranging meetings and interpreting in academic contexts such as parent-teacher meetings, IEP meetings, etc.
- Providing information to schools about family/cultural background to facilitate appropriate educational support for the student (enhancing cross cultural understanding)
- Providing information in the student's first language to the student and family about Canadian culture (facilitating cross-cultural understanding)
- Assisting school staff in multicultural education activities

Contact Multicultural Workers when information relating to INSIDE the school is required. For example, our Multicultural Workers:

- Provide information about schooling in BC
- Provide information about school culture (ie., staffing in schools and their roles, school expectations, time tables, bell schedules, meal/break-times, extra-curricular activities, school/social clubs, etc.)
- Provide information about and assist with school programs, courses, electives, graduation requirements, etc.)
- Assist with registration and assessments for various specialized school programs such as Surrey Connect, Grade 10 Challenge, ELL Transition, etc.
- Participate in parent/school staff meetings (ie., parent-teacher interviews, IEP Meetings, BASES Meetings, etc.)
- Participate in informal first-language observations and psycho-educational testing
- Assist with various school activities (ie., Kindergarten orientation, Family literacy activities, etc.)
- Participate in disciplinary meetings with administration and liaison officers (SLO)
- Assist with communication academic progress
- Assist District staff by obtaining information about students' educational backgrounds and previous education progress

What Multicultural Workers Don't Do

- Multicultural Workers are not certified translators and therefore are not able to translate school notices for distribution on SD36 Letterhead
- Mediate conflicts
- Teach ELL/ESD
- Act as a certified professional, ie., youth worker, social worker, bilingual instructor, teaching assistant, etc.
- Conduct professional assessments without the supervision of certified professionals
- Conduct after school extra-curricular activities
- Provide educational support, ie., homework help, tutoring, etc.
- Provide multicultural support to meet educational needs, ie., develop resources

SD36 English Language Learner Welcome Centre

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