

Where do I get information about education and English language options for sponsored Refugee families?

A special reception centre has been created to help Syrian refugee families access a full range of education services across the Thames Valley District School Board.

The new facility is called the **GENTLE Family Reception Centre** in recognition of TVDSB's goal of providing refugees with 'Guided Entry to New Teaching and Learning Experiences'.

The centre is located at TVDSB's White Oaks Public School which also houses White Oaks Family Centre. It is situated in a diverse cultural community where a range of existing social services are accessible at nearby South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre.

GENTLE staff members will conduct assessments for literacy, math and language skills, as well as provide an orientation to the Thames Valley classroom experience.

After a period of a few days or weeks, depending on individual needs, families will receive help in transitioning their children to their new schools. Generally speaking, elementary and secondary students will attend the designated school in their settlement neighbourhood. High school students who require additional English language skills will attend Montcalm, H.B. Beal or Westminster secondary schools where English as a Second Language (ESL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) programming is already in place.

Adults are assessed at the CLARS Centre located at LCCLC, 505 Dundas Street and then referred to the most appropriate English language class that meets their needs. There are a number of Adult English language providers in London.

For More Information and to make an appointment:

The GENTLE Family Reception Centre is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call [519-452-2000](tel:519-452-2000) ext. 38258.

The CLARS Centre is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Call [519-432-1133](tel:519-432-1133).