**LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM PHILOSOPHY**

We are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment at L.A. Matheson – a school which is constantly evolving to meet the needs of our ever-changing, diverse student population. Our goal is to create graduates who exhibit greater academic and personal resilience, embody self-determination and challenge themselves to be integrated and contributing members of society.

**LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM FUNCTIONS**

The learning support team at L.A. Matheson is comprised of both specialist teachers and education assistants. We perform a variety of functions, particularly those that address the unique learning needs of students facing academic challenges.

The team:

* supports regular teaching staff in identifying and responding to the additional learning needs of students
* runs both resource room support and in-class tutorial support; in-class support is primarily provided for our junior grades where need is often highest
* helps students with Organization such as keeping track of homework, organizing binders, time management and prioritizing assignments.
* includes specialist teachers and education assistants (EA’s) fluent in both English and Punjabi;
* facilitates and coordinates a whole school approach to improving the learning outcomes of every student; this is based on the universal design for learning (UDL) framework
* coordinates planning processes such as IEP development, vocational programming and transitioning;
* designs and implements the supports required to build teacher capacity so that all students access quality learning
* develops collaborative partnerships with the school, parents and carers, other professionals and the wider school community.
* takes part in School Based Team meetings to address students with more complex challenges
* provides assistive technology to students with deficits in reading and writing
* works with counsellors, YES coordinator, youth care workers and other support staff to provide consistent student for students most in need

Every school has a learning support team. The composition of teams may vary as they work in partnership with each school’s English Language Learners (ELL) department.