

## **DROP-IN**

Drop In serves a number of functions:

1. Permanent Prevention ... for a small number of students who cannot and never will be able to handle the unstructured recess setting
2. Temporary Prevention ... for certain students at certain times, Drop In is an alternative programme which avoids the problems that can develop during unstructured recess times when students are experiencing temporary or situational stress, anxiety etc.
3. Safety Net ... for students who have difficulties with social interactions or who are odd or different and cannot easily fit in with other students. Drop In provides a safe, fun and social environment because it is structured and closely monitored
4. Teachable Moments ... social skill training, how to deal with frustration and disappointment etc.
5. Other functions .... teachers use it as a place to send students who need to complete assignments, a place to send a small group of students who want time to work/play together, a place to send a student who needs a quiet place to spend recess

## **DROP IN - Questions & Answers**

### **What is Drop In?**

an emotional/behavioural support program held at recess time

selected students are invited to attend (some come every recess, others come for part of each or some recesses, others come only when they choose to come) looks for teachable moments while students are playing

activities are carefully chosen for the students depending on the goal we have in mind (example: students working on developing better social skills play board games, puzzles or other activities that require cooperation and collaboration.

supports students who simply need a safe, welcoming place in which to play

prevents inappropriate behaviours from occurring on the yard by removing students from the yard who do not have the ability to play safely

### **What is the purpose of Drop In?**

teach social skills (incidentally) to students in need of help in this area

create and support friendships for students

experiencing difficulty making and keeping friends

offer a safe, welcoming place to go at recess for

students who are uncomfortable in unstructured large group settings or who are experiencing a temporary upset

prevention - keeping the yard safe by removing aggressive students from the yard

teach and train aggressive students how to play

appropriately, what activities are appropriate, how to get their needs met without force, etc.

### **Who does it service?**

students experiencing friendship difficulties

students who are displaying aggressive behaviour on the yard

students who are shy, uncomfortable in unstructured play settings

students who are temporarily experiencing some upset at home or at school and require a safe, welcoming setting for a short period of time

### **How do students come to Drop In?**

referrals from teachers, administrators, lunchroom supervisors

Drop In may be part of a student's Behaviour Education Plan

### **Who runs Drop In?**

SERTs

Teacher volunteers

### **Where does Drop In take place?**

Library, computer lab, gym