

Independent Living Skills (ILS) St. Mary's College



Support Every Child,
Reach Every Student.



What you need to know about ILS at SMC:



- This specialty program is currently divided into 3 classes
- ILS is the only program of its kind in Sault Ste. Marie
- ILS offers differently abled students an authentic opportunity to experience high school
- Students are integrated into mainstream classes whenever possible - this is approached on a individual basis
- All students have IEPs and are working toward personal goals
- Students in ILS can come from other specialty programs in the elementary panel, as well as fully integrated /mainstream settings

Answers to our most asked questions:



- Students can work toward the 14 credit Certificate of Accomplishment, but generally will not meet the criteria to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
- Students can start in ILS, and transition into the mainstream, and vice versa
- ILS students are fully integrated into all student life activities and follow the same routines / protocols as all SMC students
- Attending College is a realistic goal - students graduating from ILS will generally attend a CICE Program at College, or at other colleges in Ontario that offer similar programs



Independent Living Skills 1

- 16:1 student / teacher ratio
- Students are in their first, second or third year of secondary school
- During grade 8 these students begin transition visits in January
- Focus on the transition to secondary school
- Work on functional literacy and numeracy, social and life skills
- Have access to EA support
- Some students take integrated classes in areas of strength

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Independent Living Skills 2

- 16:1 student / teacher ratio
- Students will generally be in at least their 3rd year of high school
- Many students attend integrated classes in areas of strength / interest - some earn credit
- Students continue to build functional academic skills while focusing on building real life social skills
- ILS 2 focuses on preparation for co-op experiences, graduation, attending college, and life after high school

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Independent Living Skills 3

- 8:1 student teacher ratio plus EA's as needed
- Students with medical needs have access to a variety of equipment
- Students with medical needs have scheduled days that include occupation therapy, music/lights and/or sounds, hygiene care and nursing staff when needed
- Some students learn to develop hobbies and interests such as music, art or social games through role playing, videos and peer modeling
- Each student has personalized learning goals and academic programming including functional literacy, numeracy skills and life skills
- Students are encouraged to build self regulation skills, interact with peers and develop life skills that will extend beyond high school

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