

Dear families,

As you may know, your child's school is participating in the Ready to Learn Schools initiative. This initiative is based on the understanding that students can only be ready to learn when they feel calm, safe, and their basic needs have been met.

The Ready to Learn initiative provides teachers and other school staff, including educational assistants and administrators, with training on the Neurosequential Model in Education, or NME. The goal of this training is to educate school staff about how early experiences shape the brain, as well as how to apply that knowledge to their work with students in and outside the classroom.

The training school staff receive includes training on how to use an observational tool called a mini-map. Mini-maps use teacher observations to get a snapshot of their classroom students' current functioning in 10 domains such as reading/verbal skills, relational skills, fine motor skills and attention/distractibility, to name a few.

Mini-maps are not an assessment tool and will not be used to track outcomes. They are a tool to help educators better understand the relative strengths and needs of their students and are only used to help the educator identify strategies and plans for their own students and classroom.

For more information, we invite you to please visit <https://yukon.ca/ready-to-learn> where you'll find more information about Ready to Learn schools as well as several informative videos.

Please be in touch with your school administrator if you have any questions or concerns about their participation in the Ready to Learn initiative, or if you do not want your child to be included in this approach.

Please also feel free to reach out to me directly as I would be happy to hear your feedback and address any questions or concerns you may have.

Best regards,



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