

FAQs – Administrative Procedure 337 School Choice and Admission

Updated September 29, 2025

Background

Enrolment pressure continues to grow in Chilliwack schools, and District staff are taking steps to manage and balance enrolment for the long term. Beginning October 1, 2025, students attending schools outside of their catchment area will be required to return to their designated catchment school when they transition to the next school level (Elementary to Middle and Middle to Secondary) the following year.

Families wishing to apply for an out-of-catchment placement at the next school level may do so under [Administrative Procedure 337](#), and acceptance will depend on available space and the time of application.

Questions and Answers

1. Does this change impact students in French Immersion?
 - a. As long as they remain in their program, changes to Administrative Procedure 337 will not impact students in the District French Immersion Program.

For example, a student attending the French Immersion Program at Vedder Middle School will automatically be pre-transitioned to the French Immersion Program at Sardis Secondary School in grade 9.

2. Does this change impact students in the Integrated Arts and Technology program?
 - a. As long as they remain in their program, changes to Administrative Procedure 337 will not impact students in the District Integrated Arts and Technology (IAT) Program.

For example, a student attending the IAT program at AD Rundle Middle School will automatically be pre-transitioned to the IAT program at Imagine High in grade 9.

3. What does this mean for students who attend a K-8 school?



- a. Students in a K-8 school will remain in their school until they transition to secondary school. They do not need to reapply when transitioning from grade 5 to 6.
4. Why is the District implementing this change now?
 - a. Enrolment pressure is increasing at Chilliwack Schools, and District staff are making decisions to manage and balance enrolment long term. We want to ensure there is space for in-catchment students at their neighbourhood school.
5. Will my student lose their place in their current school if they are an out-of-catchment student?
 - a. Out-of-catchment students will remain in their current school until they transition into the next level of school (elementary to middle or middle to secondary). Students who wish to attend middle or secondary school as an out-of-catchment student must register online beginning in October of the previous school year.

For example, a student in grade 5 should register in October of their grade 5 year if they want to apply to attend an out-of-catchment middle school in grade 6.
 - b. As per our practice, students who are no longer residing in the Promontory catchment will need to register for their catchment school.
6. What does this mean for out-of-catchment students wishing to enroll in the baseball academy at G.W. Graham Secondary School?
 - a. Specialized academies and programs are offered through [One Campus](#). See [Administrative Procedure 338 Specialty Academies and Programs](#) for more information. Students can contact their school counselor directly if they are interested in One Campus.
7. What does this mean for students who want to access AP or other specialty courses that are not available at their secondary school?
 - a. Specialized academies and programs are offered through [One Campus](#). See [Administrative Procedure 338 Specialty Academies and Programs](#) for more information. Students can contact their school counselor directly if they are interested in One Campus.



8. There are specific reasons why I feel my student needs to attend an out-of-catchment school. What should I do?
 - a. There is an appeals process outlined on the final page of [Administrative Procedure 337 – School Admission and Choice](#). Please contact the Assistant Superintendent responsible for your school if you cannot resolve concerns at the school level.

For example, a grade 8 student has attended an out-of-catchment middle school with their peers for the past three years. It's important to the student that they continue with their peer group as they move into secondary school, but they are unable to secure a spot as an out-of-catchment student. If the family has concerns about their placement, they can send an email to ereg@sd33.bc.ca, and it will be forwarded to the appropriate school supervisor.