

Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)



SWIS Languages & Contacts

Tamil/Sinhalese -----	647-296-0945
Pashto/Farsi/Italian -----	416-835-5234
Patois -----	647-296-0947
Arabic -----	647-621-5057
Arabic -----	647-283-0784
Hungarian/German/Spanish--	647-283-0191
Mandarin -----	647-296-0949
Turkish/Kurdish/Arabic -----	437-288-9505
Hindi/Marathi/Gujrati/Urdu ---	647-283-1065
Russian/Ukrainian -----	647-296-0951
Spanish -----	647-296-0948
Bengali/Hindi/Urdu -----	647-406-5057
Tibetan/Hindi -----	647-282-4115
Spanish/Portuguese -----	416-276-6332
Mandarin -----	647-282-9812
SWIS Manager -----	416-659-5722
SWIS Admin -----	437-288-8744

Settlement Services for Newcomer Families

The first few years in a new country are often difficult for new immigrants. There is a strong focus on adjusting and integrating successfully into the mainstream society. It is particularly challenging for newcomer students and their families in the Canadian education system. Traditionally, newcomers have had little access to community services in the schools. The SWIS program addresses this by placing Settlement Workers in 45 regular service schools, over 60 itinerant schools, a Reception Centre and an Assessment Centre in the South-West area of Toronto.

Our Partners

For over 20 years SWIS has worked in partnership with Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), and the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) to support newcomer families and their children.



Settlement Services:

One-on-One Settlement Assistance

SWIS Workers meet with clients individually to perform needs assessments, information and orientation, and referrals to community resources and government services tailored to the needs of each client. Follow-up services and assistance is available for as long as families need.

Group Activities/Workshops

Families and youth provide their input in helping to create group activities that cover a range of topics including, education, parenting, summer activities, youth, employment, mental health and wellness, and more. Group sessions are facilitated and created specifically to meet the needs of newcomer families, sometimes in partnerships with other organizations with guest speakers.

Newcomer Orientation Week (NOW) Program

The NOW Program is a partnership between teachers, SWIS Program Workers and Peer Leaders – many were newcomer themselves at one time. One week before the school year begins, Peer Leaders provide a range of information, activities and sharing experiences for newly arrived youth with the support of SWIS staff and teachers. In this fun and engaging environment, the NOW activities prepare newcomer youth for a smooth entry into school in Canada. Activities reduce student stress about the settlement transition and encourages their full participation in the life of their new school and community. Peer Leaders are trained by the SWIS team to enhance their leadership and team-building skills to run the NOW Program and demonstrate to those new students, their own potential to become school leaders.

*New to Canada?
We are here to support you.
Contact Settlement Workers in Schools for free settlement services.*