



Education and Early Childhood Learning

Student Achievement and Inclusion Division
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November 25, 2022

To: Superintendents of School Divisions
Directors of First Nations Education Authorities and Tribal Councils

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Early Development Instrument (EDI) 2022/2023—For Action

As communicated in July 2022, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning is resuming the collection of data measuring Kindergarten children’s “school readiness” using the Early Development Instrument (EDI). Kindergarten teachers in all public school divisions will participate in the EDI data collection in February/March 2023. First Nations schools are invited to participate. Following nearly three years of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, the information collected through this instrument will provide a picture of the impact on our youngest learners and opportunities for targeted responses to strengthen student learning including early learning and child care as well as the K to 12 education system.

The EDI is a 103-item questionnaire developed by Dr. Dan Offord and Dr. Magdalena Janus at the Offord Centre for Child Studies (OCCS) at McMaster University. The questionnaire is completed by Kindergarten teachers for individual students and takes approximately 10 to 20 minutes per questionnaire.

The EDI measures “school readiness” in five areas (domains) of early childhood development: physical health and well-being; social competence; emotional maturity; language and cognitive development; and communication skills and general knowledge. The EDI can help identify the strengths and needs of groups of children at a school level and can be a predictor of how children will do in later school years. Note that EDI results are never used for the assessment of individual students. For more information about the EDI, visit <https://edi.offordcentre.com/about/what-is-the-edi>.

After data collection and analysis, OCCS and Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning will provide EDI reports. At least seven completed and valid questionnaires from each school are required to produce a school-level report.

Once EDI implementation is complete, each school division or participating First Nations school will receive \$132.00 for general administration and \$11.00 per completed questionnaire.

Each school division or participating First Nations school must identify a local EDI coordinator. Local EDI coordinators will be the first point of contact for their schools and teachers. The local EDI coordinator will work closely with the OCCS EDI coordinator and the department's provincial EDI coordinator, Carol Chabbert. Local EDI coordinators will be responsible for

- sending out EDI information documents to school administrators, teachers, and parents
- collecting and submitting class lists and student information in a secure manner
- ensuring that teachers have received EDI training
- ensuring that the EDI questionnaires are completed by Kindergarten teachers for each student
- helping with any logistical issues

Please email the following information by December 7, 2022, to Carol Chabbert, provincial EDI Coordinator, at Carol.Chabbert@gov.mb.ca.

- name, position, email address, and phone number of the local EDI coordinator for your school division or First Nations school

If you have any questions, please contact Carol Chabbert.

Thank you for participating in the EDI this school year and for your continued efforts in learning more about and improving the developmental health of children across Manitoba.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Janet Tomy
Assistant Deputy Minister
Student Achievement and Inclusion

c. Chairs of School Boards

Principals of First Nations Schools (Kindergarten)
Manitoba School Boards Association
The Manitoba Teachers' Society
Manitoba Association of School Superintendents
Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre
Manitoba First Nations School System
Allison Potter, Acting Director, Continuous Improvement Branch
Helen Robinson-Settee, Director, Indigenous Inclusion Directorate
Rhonda Shaw, Acting Executive Director, Learning and Outcomes Branch
Kassy Assié, Executive Director, Bureau de l'éducation française
Patricia Raso, Early Development Instrument Coordinator, Offord Centre for Child Studies
Carol Chabbert, Provincial EDI Coordinator, Continuous Improvement Branch