



# Responsive Teaching & Learning

**Tiered Approach  
to Learning**

**Student  
Services**

Newsletter  
Volume 1 2018-19

## WELCOME

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is looking forward to working with your school during Year One of the Primary-Elementary Initiative. An important component of this initiative is the implementation of the Responsive Teaching and Learning Policy.

Responsive Teaching and Learning is an approach to education that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic learning in a safe and inclusive school community. This policy provides direction on how school personnel

work together as a **Professional Learning Community (PLC)** to support learning for all students. Through a change in practice, resources, and the establishment of Teaching and Learning teams, this initiative aims to improve school environments and increase student achievement.

As one of 40 schools selected for Year One of this initiative, we would like to express our gratitude to all staff for your commitment and dedication. Your involvement and feedback are crucial as we continue to work together to be more responsive to the needs of students and to improve educational outcomes.

### What is a Teaching and Learning Team (TLT)?

A TLT is a team of educators who collaborate to ensure that instruction is responsive to the needs of their students. TLTs meet regularly and use data to inform the decision-making process.

A TLT operates using the principles of a PLC and is key to implementing the tiered approach to learning.

### The Key Elements of a PLC:

- A focus on learning: planning instruction designed to meet the needs of all students;
- A focus on collaboration: collaborating to plan effective instruction; and
- A focus on data: using data to inform and monitor instruction.

“At Woodland Primary, we are energized and excited to meet the needs of all learners through responsive teaching in a Professional Learning Community.”

Nancy Barry & Christina Antle  
Woodland Primary Administrative Team



PLCs use data to inform universal instruction, targeted intervention or intensive intervention as part of the tiered approach to learning.

### What do TLTs look like?

A Teaching and Learning Team will always include classroom teachers and may include:

- IRTs
- Reading Specialists
- Administrators
- Guidance Counsellors
- Teaching and Learning Assistants

### Guiding Questions for a TLT:

- What is it we expect our students to learn?
- How will we know when they have learned it?
- How will we respond when some students do not learn it?
- How will we respond when some students already know it?

### Is a TLT just grade level meetings?

A TLT is not just a planning meeting. A TLT provides the opportunity for teachers to review and analyze assessment data to inform instructional practice to meet the needs of all students.

While grade/multi-grade level meetings are still needed, some schools may “repurpose” their grade/multi-grade level meetings to be more action oriented and to review data to inform classroom practice.

“To create a PLC, focus on learning rather than teaching, work collaboratively and hold yourself accountable for results.”

Richard Dufour



Learn more  
at  
[www.allthingsPLC.info](http://www.allthingsPLC.info)



Questions? Please contact your school administrator or email [ptfk6@gov.nl.ca](mailto:ptfk6@gov.nl.ca)