

OVERVIEW FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

INDIGENOUS SELF-DECLARATION

The Good Spirit School Division has developed a process of self-declaration for all students across the division. Parents/guardians have the option to self-declare their child/children as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit (FNMI) during the registration process or by completing and returning the self-declaration brochure provided through your school. This information helps support and enhance the educational experience of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students.

SELF-DECLARATION PROCESS

The Good Spirit School Division is building a more effective process for self-declaring Indigenous student identities. You may have received a self-declaration brochure through your child or encountered the self-declaration section as part of the student registration process. To date, many families have chosen to self-declare using these methods. To ensure our records are accurate, we encourage your support by confirming your child's self-declaration through either method.

Self-declaration is a voluntary and confidential process that allows families to identify students as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit. This data is used to develop, maintain, and enhance programs, supports, and services tailored to Indigenous learners. Accurate self-declaration information helps measure student achievement, inform policy and funding decisions, and create targeted initiatives that benefit Indigenous students.

The Ministry of Education also uses self-declaration data to improve outcomes for Indigenous students. The information supports planning for improvement, measuring high school completion rates, post-secondary transition rates, provincial and division achievement tests, and graduation results.

KEY DETAILS

- Self-declaration does not require documentation to verify status.
- Students under 19 years of age require signed parental/guardian consent to self-declare.
- Students who self-declare will remain in the data system for current and future years. Parents/guardians can revoke or change a declaration at any time by providing a written and signed request.
- The self-declaration information is kept in the student's cumulative folder and follows them through graduation.

Self-declaring as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit is entirely voluntary. For more information or to access a copy of the self-declaration brochure, please visit our website or contact your child's school.