

## **Self-Identification - Elk Island Catholic Schools**

Families in Alberta may choose to self-identify as First Nations (status), First Nations (non-status), Métis, or Inuit on school registration forms. Parents and Guardians can add, verify, change, or remove this information each year. Self-identification is entirely voluntary and does not require any documentation to verify status.

When Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) families choose to self-identify, the confidential information is used by EICS and the province to help support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit student achievement and engagement through funding, programming, and initiatives, including to:

- support policy and funding decisions
- measure program effectiveness
- identify promising practices supporting First Nation, Métis, and Inuit student success
- inform provincial reporting on First Nations, Métis, and Inuit student achievement in provincial schools

Alberta Education and school authorities use the information according to section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIP Act) to plan for program improvements, to make policy and funding decisions, and to measure and report First Nations, Métis or Inuit student achievement.

Funding provided to EICS is based on the number of registered self-identified First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. The funding is used to support students in a number of ways including:

- engaging with Elders and Knowledge Keepers
- hiring liaisons or cultural advisors
- developing and purchasing First Nations, Métis and Inuit resources
- professional development for school district and staff

These initiatives vary and are the discretion of each school in collaboration with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Division consultants.

Additional information can be found at:

[First Nations, Métis or Inuit Student Self-Identification | Alberta.ca](#)

[Aboriginal Student Self-Identification: Information for Parents and Guardians](#)