



Learning Communities

At Leary Integrated Arts & Technology, we thrive together as a community of learners – students, staff, families, and guests. The work we do each day is founded on four principles: Integrated Disciplines, Authentic Learning, Collaborative Culture, and Visionary Staff. In an age-appropriate manner, students will be empowered at the centre of their learning by:

- developing a deep understanding around foundational skills (writing, reading, mathematics) and **B.C. Curriculum** outcomes,
- **thinking, reflecting, and learning** to see themselves as strong learners for a lifetime, and
- learning how to transfer their understandings and skills in novel ways that are intellectually engaging through **Project Based Learning** opportunities designed to promote learner voice, choice, and interests.

What is a Learning Community?

This year, students have been placed into **Learning Communities** which are made up of combination grades, 3 classroom teachers, 1 Inclusive Design Teacher, and several support staff. **Learning Communities** allow for cross grade community building throughout our school, providing for deep learner relationships to form across ages, opportunities for older learners to be leaders, and connecting learners together based on interests, passions, and learning rather than based on age. At Leary IAT, we will know each student deeply, both as a learner and as a person, enabling us to tap into their passions to design challenging learning, enriching their experience.

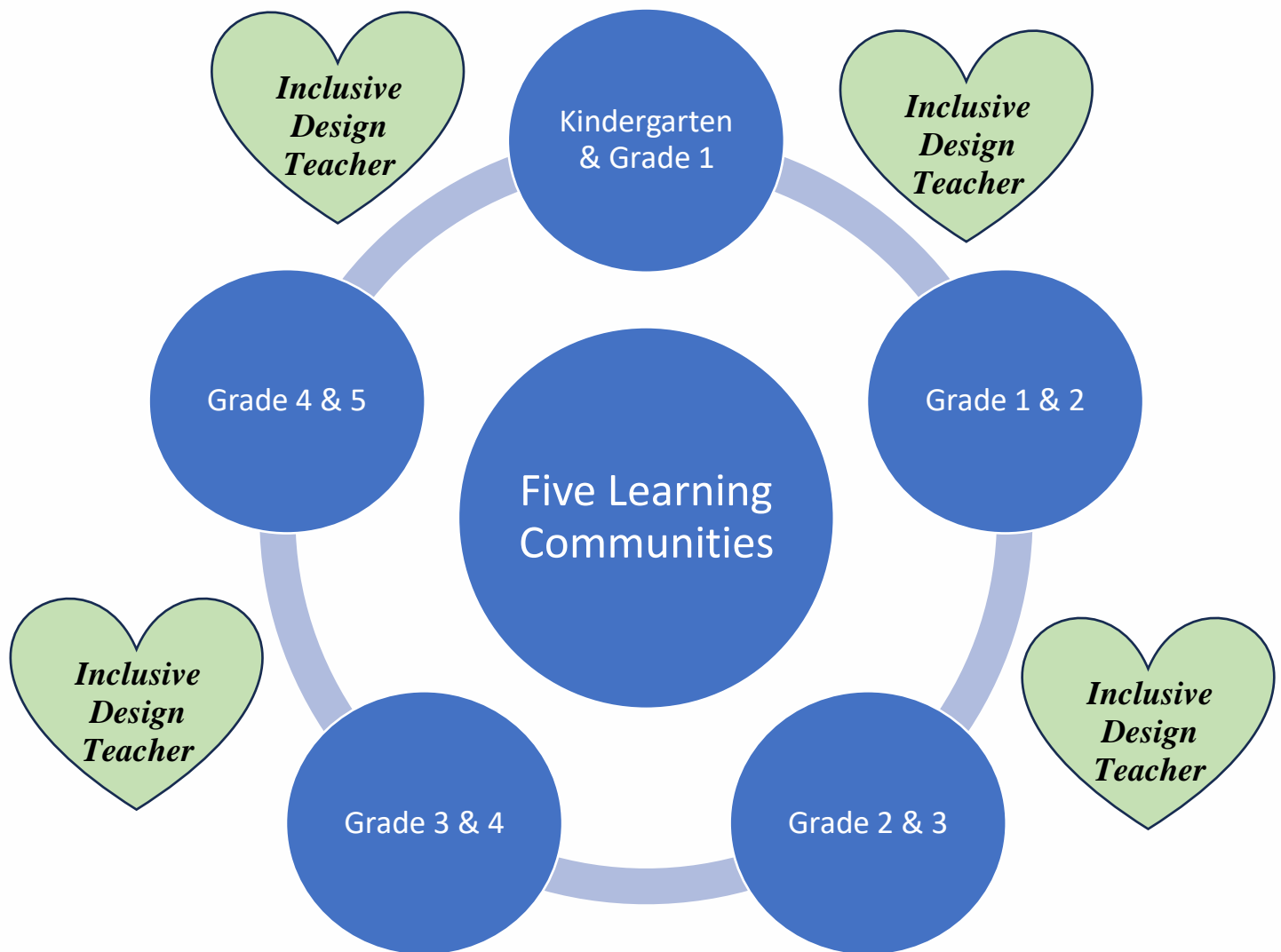
Our role as educators in a **Learning Community** will be to act as co-designers of rich learning experiences, working alongside learners, where their passions and agency are developed and nurtured. The curricular design will shift to greater integration of disciplines so that learners can demonstrate **B.C. Curricular Competencies**. As well, the physical environment will be designed to serve a more learner-centered, flexible, multi-disciplinary, multi-graded learning design. We will work hard and together to ensure each learner has the essential understandings, competencies, and dispositions to thrive.

Leary IAT students will have several opportunities within their **Learning Community** supporting of our **Core Values** of equity, kindness, inclusion, collaboration, and innovation through:

- A flexible schedule responsive to learner needs.
- Learners and teachers teamed in learning communities to foster deeper peer relationships and social-emotional well-being.
- Deeper relationships with teams of teachers resulting in more responsive learning experiences, better parent communication, and greater learner success.
- Opportunities encouraging connections across the entire school community. Each learner will have adult advocates.
- A whole school **Deep Dive Enrichment** program offering multiple, school-based electives throughout the year encouraging learners to choose areas of intense interest or curiosity.



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Each Learning Community is comprised of a group of multi-graded students, 3 classroom teachers, 1 Inclusive Design Teacher, and several support staff.