

Nurturing Support Center

2. What is it?

What Is It?

The NSC: a structured support system



An integrated component of the **school's continuum of services and supports**



A mechanism for providing **intensified, individualized support** based on student needs



A strategic resource with a **clearly defined, understood, and shared purpose**



A bridge between the classroom and specialized support, working in partnership with teachers to promote student engagement, inclusion, and success

How Does It Fit?

The Nurturing Support Center

Universal classroom practices



Other school-wide measures

An NSC is one of several supports available in a school. It is not meant to be a stand-alone solution.

Nurturing Support Centre VS. Reflection Room

The NSC represents a shift from removing students when difficulties arise to creating the conditions that support regulation, inclusion, and continued engagement in learning.

Traditional Removal Approach	Nurturing Support Center Approach
Focuses on compliance	Focuses on regulation
Addresses student behaviour	Addresses the conditions influencing behaviour
Intervenes after a rupture or crisis	Intervenes proactively to prevent escalation
Emphasizes individual responsibility	Promotes shared responsibility
Can contribute to interruptions in schooling	Maintains educational continuity

A Student Scenario: Two Different Responses

The same challenge, two different approaches



Meet Alex

A secondary school student who often experiences emotional dysregulation, frequent removals from class, and difficulty maintaining engagement in learning.

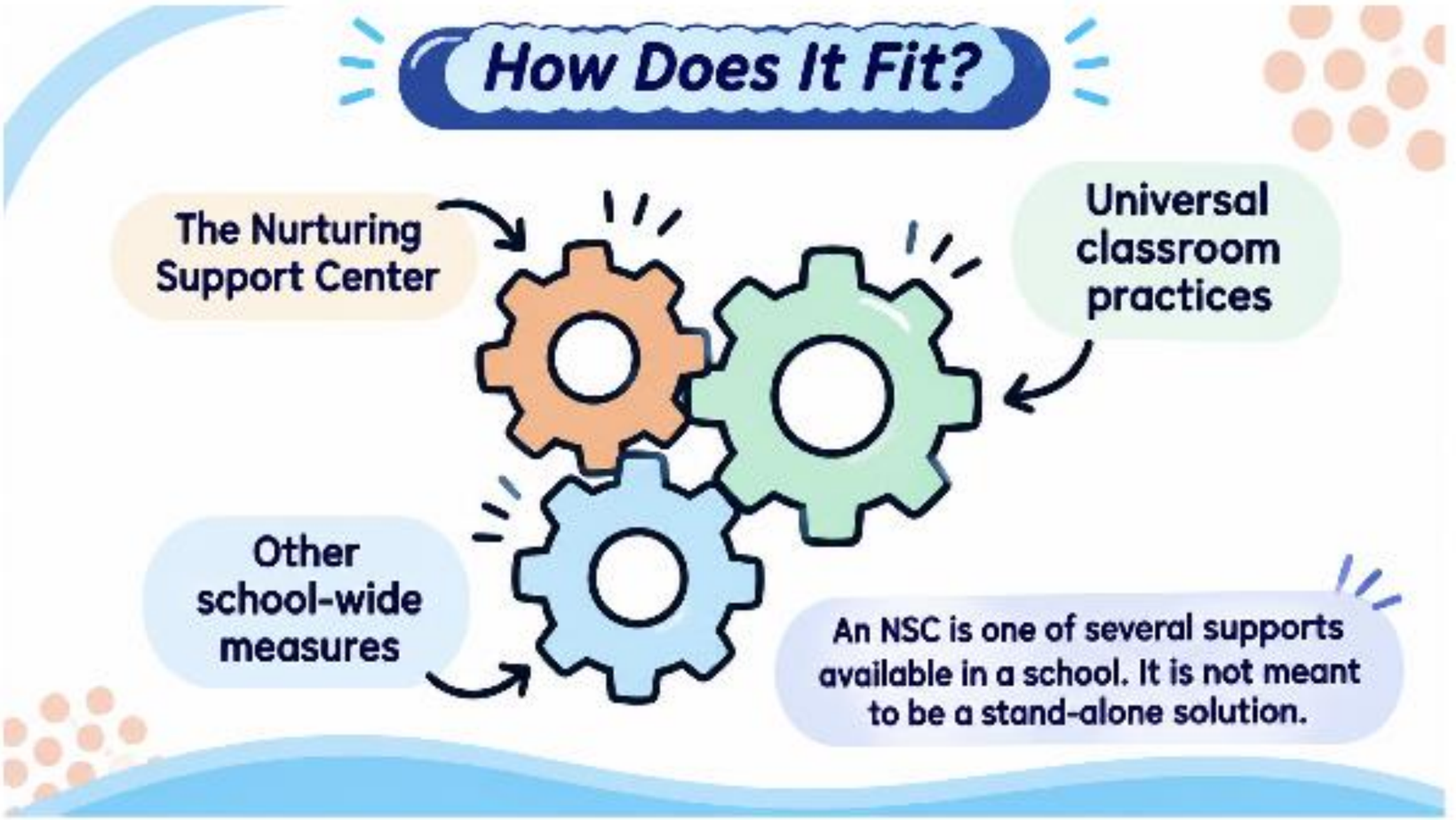
Traditional Response	NSC Approach
Student becomes dysregulated.	Early warning signs are identified.
Student is removed from class.	Preventive supports are activated.
Focus is on managing the incident.	Focus is on understanding the student's needs.
Student returns without changes to the environment.	Classroom conditions and supports are adjusted.
Similar incidents continue.	Progress is monitored and strategies are refined.

Key Message: The NSC shifts the response from reactive management to a coordinated, proactive, and individualized approach that promotes regulation, engagement, and lasting participation in learning.





WHAT IS IT? — An Integrated Support Structure



CONTINUUM OF SUPPORT

Where does your school's NSC fit within the multi-tiered system of support (universal, targeted and individualized practices)? Does it operate as a stand-alone service or as a complementary support?