



Parenting and Family Literacy Centres
Supports for parents, families and children to age 6

Kindergarten to Grade 2
Kindergarten Registration and Curriculum Implementation K-Gr.2

Child Care
Child care for children from birth to age 12

Licensed Before and After School Programs for Kindergarten Children within the TCDSB

The Toronto Catholic District School Board currently has 52 Before and After School/Extended Day Programs, for four and five year olds. There is anticipation that many more programs will open in September 2015.

In 2009, The Ministry of Education announced a significant transformation to the way in which Kindergarten programs were to be delivered in Ontario. Instead of half-days, the programs would be available full days through a five year, phased in plan beginning in 2010.

The vision included a 'wrap-around' before and after school option, contingent upon sufficient parental interest. **The Extended Day Program is meant to be complementary to the core day Kindergarten program and aligned with it.** See link below for the Extended Day Program Curriculum Document.

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kinderProgram2010.pdf>

- Independent exploration of classroom materials
- Nutritious morning and afternoon snacks
- Small-group and large group activities
- Gross motor activities in the gym or outside
- Technology
- Self-selected reading and reading aloud
- Quiet activities
- Music and drama
- Exit and entry at flexible times



The 2015 Extended Day survey information is embedded in SOAR for new applicants. Parents are encouraged to complete the online

survey when registering their child for Kindergarten. With a minimum of 20 positive surveys, indicating a need for both before and after school care or just after school care, a registration night will be arranged.

If the contracted third party, non-profit, licensed and approved child care agency secures about 20 confirmed registrants, a program will open in September 2015.

Parents of currently-enrolled ELP Year I (4 year olds) students may also complete an electronic survey provided to schools <https://soar.tcdsb.org/SOARSurvey/>. The extended day program is licensed by the Ministry of Education and it is inspected/assessed by Toronto's Public Health, Building, Fire and Children's Services' Departments.

Twenty children, maximum, are supervised by at least one Registered Early Childhood Educator and another qualified staff (eg. an Early Childhood Assistant). The program takes place, before and after school, within the Kindergarten room in shared space. This also means that equipment and toys are shared between the school day program and the extended day program.

There is a cost for the extended program that ranges from about \$31 - \$37/day on instructional days. Parents of children with a fee subsidy in child care may transfer the subsidy into this program. Parents may also consider applying for a fee subsidy through the City of Toronto Children's Services by either calling 311 or by visiting: www.toronto.ca/children for more information.

The Extended Day Program provides much support to our working families and it provides our TCDSB Kindergarten children with a safe, enriched, caring and active environment before and after school. It is an extension of the core Kindergarten day which allows children to build upon and expand their learning. The program also provides valuable social and physical interaction opportunities through cooperative games, sports, crafts, dance, story-telling/sharing, cooking, homework assistance, reading, music, cultural sharing, group discussions, etc.

We look forward to continuing to support your Extended Day Program if it is already available at your location or to work with your school to open a program for the upcoming new school year.

But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." -Matthew 19:14

TIMELINES FOR POTENTIAL OPENING OF LICENSED BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents complete B & A of Kindergarten surveys on SOAR Currently-enrolled Kindergarten students' parents complete online survey via the following link: https://soar.tcdsb.org/SOARSurvey/ Schools & child cares encourage parents to complete surveys and provide assistance where possible (e.g.: access to a computer)
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of February—survey results collected by TCDSB IT Department Summary of results provided to Child Care Services Sites with minimum of 20 positive surveys, shortlisted Qualified and approved third party agencies contacted and offered the opportunity to possibly operate the program
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Party agencies schedule registration nights in coordination with school Principal and Child Care Services Flyers distributed to advertise registration night Minimum of 20 registrants required to open a program Registration night for potential school-age program for 6 – 10/12 year olds may be considered at this time (minimum of 25 needed)
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early April—School Principals informed about whether program will open or not; parents can then be informed by the school Child care agencies will contact parents directly where a program is set to open, to confirm their child's space Child Care Provider applies to Ministry of Education, to license their program (4 month process) Current fire certificates and water testing results provided
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One hour meetings scheduled at each NEW Before and After Kindergarten program site with Principal, third party agency and Child Care Services Shared space, alternative space, policies and processes are reviewed; 'Shared Space Form' is signed off by all parties Third Party agency participates at 'Welcome to Kindergarten'
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Report submitted for review and approvals to enter into agreements with the third party agencies Public Health, Ministry Licensing, City and Fire may begin to visit school sites to inspect shared space to be used by B & A of K program Outstanding paperwork gathered (e.g.: updated floor plans, etc.)
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City and Ministry representatives continue to visit school sites to inspect premises Third party agencies will begin to receive a license to operate Third party agencies will begin to order toys/equipment & plan for the new program by hiring staff, updating information packages
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of August—Principals should arrange an opportunity for Early Learning Teams to meet and talk to third party child care agency teams where possible about shared space, etc. (eg. sometimes ELP Teams will voluntarily prepare the K rooms during the last week of August) Regular meetings should be facilitated between the educators throughout the school year

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