



FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN MATERNELLE ET JARDIN D'ENFANTS À TEMPS PLEIN

Key Facts

- September 2010: 35,000 four- and five-year olds enter the first year of full-day kindergarten
- September 2011: 50,000 four- and five year olds enrolled in nearly 800 schools— about 20 per cent of the total kindergarten population
- September 2012: 1,700 schools will offer the program to 49 per cent of kindergarten students
- September 2013: 2,500 schools will offer full-day kindergarten to approximately 75 per cent of kindergarten students
- Full-day kindergarten will be fully implemented by September 2014
- Average class size: 26 students with a teacher and an early childhood educator, who work as a team
- \$200 million in support from Ministry of Education for the program in year 1; \$300 million in year 2
- To date, the province has allocated \$500 million in capital funding to support the implementation of full-day kindergarten
- Research says every \$1 spent on early learning repays a seven-to-one return on investment

Play-based learning

- The *Full-Day Early Learning–Kindergarten Program* document combines *The Kindergarten Program (2006)*, *Early Learning for Every Child Today (ELECT)* and *Every Child Every Opportunity* (Charles Pascal).
- The program is child-centred and play-based—promoting children’s physical, cognitive, language, emotional, social and creative development and well-being.
- The program document remains in draft for the 2011-12 school year.

Before- and after-school programs

- Where there is sufficient interest from parents, schools with full-day kindergarten will provide an integrated on-site program from about 7 a.m. to start of school and after school until about 6 p.m.
- School boards may offer the program directly or through an agreement with a third-party provider licensed under the *Day Nurseries Act*.
- Costs of the program are covered by parent fees. Subsidies are available based on need and eligibility. Municipal service managers administer the subsidies for the program.
- The program is guided by the ministry’s *Extended Day Program* document. It remains in draft for the 2011-12 school year.

Role of teacher and ECE in full-day kindergarten classrooms

- There is a team of two educators in the full-day kindergarten classroom—a registered ECE and a certified teacher, with a “duty to co-operate” on:
 - planning for and providing education to students
 - observing, monitoring and assessing the development of the students
 - communicating with families
 - maintaining a healthy physical, emotional and social learning environment
 - performing all duties assigned to them by the principal

Children with special needs and special education needs

- The Ministries of Education, Children and Youth Services, and Health and Long-Term Care are working closely to support students with special needs or special education needs.
- For 2011-12, school boards, parents and community service agencies continue to work in partnership to ensure that children with special needs or special education needs can participate in full-day kindergarten.

Evaluation

- The ministry has begun an evaluation of full-day kindergarten, with a particular focus on student achievement and overall child development. The results of the evaluation will help improve the delivery of full-day kindergarten and refine the approach to implementation.

More information

- Ministry of Education website: www.ontario.ca/kindergarten / www.ontario.ca/childcare
- *The Full-Day Early Learning–Kindergarten Program*, draft
www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kindergarten_english_apr13.pdf
- *The Full-Day Early Learning—Kindergarten Program: Extended Day Program*, draft
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kinderProgram2010.pdf>
- *The Full Day Early Learning Statute Law Amendment Act, 2010* (Bill 242)
http://www.ontla.on.ca/bills/bills-files/39_Parliament/Session2/b242ra.pdf
- early learning memos – <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/memosummary.html>

Still have questions about full-day kindergarten?

Submit your questions to www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/feedback.html.