

support every child
reach every student

**BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL
PROGRAMS FOR 6 TO 12 YEAR
OLDS**

November 10, 2016

Commitments

- ❖ “Once full-day kindergarten is fully in place, we’ll make sure all schools offer after-school programs for children aged 6 to 12.” (2011 Liberal Party Election Platform)
- ❖ “[We] will keep building a comprehensive early learning and care system, including the successful extension of full-day kindergarten and child care.” (2013 Speech from the Throne)
- ❖ “A system of responsive, high-quality, accessible, and increasingly integrated early years programs and services that contribute to healthy child development today and a stronger future tomorrow.” ([Ontario Early Years Policy Framework](#), 2013)
- ❖ “Ensure school boards offer before- and after-school programs for six- to twelve-year-olds where there is sufficient demand, either themselves or through a third party.” ([Ontario Budget](#), 2014).
- ❖ Greater integration between child care, early learning and education services is central component to the success and wellbeing of every student and child. ([Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario](#), 2014).

Full Day Kindergarten

- ❖ School boards are required to ensure the provision of before and after school care for four and five year olds where there is sufficient demand. These programs:
 - Are directly operated by the school board or through a child care centre.
 - Are funded by parent fees (subsidy may be eligible through their local service system manager)
 - May operate on PD days, summer, school holidays.
 - May also serve 6 to 12 year olds

- ❖ Since the introduction of FDK, child care spaces in publicly funded schools have more than quadrupled for four and five year olds:
 - Spaces have increased from 15,000 in 2010-11 to almost 74,000 in 2015-16
 - These spaces represent 19% of all licensed child care spaces in the province.
 - This is an increase of 383 % since the introduction of FDK in 2010-11

- 42% of 4 to 5 year olds have access to a licensed child care space, as of March 31, 2016.

School Age Children

- ❖ Over 146,500 licensed child care spaces in Ontario for children 6 to 12 years of age as of March 31, 2016.
 - Represents 38% of the licensed sector.
 - Increase of 56% since the introduction of FDK in 2010-11

Child Care Modernization Overview

- ❖ Summer 2012: As part of the *Modernization Child Care in Ontario Discussion Paper*, the ministry sought advice on the provision of after school programs for school-aged children.
- ❖ December 2013: Introduction and First Reading of the *Child Care Modernization Act* including amendments to the *Education Act* to support the expanded duty.
- ❖ December 2014: The *Child Care Modernization Act, 2014* received Royal Assent.
- ❖ August 2015: The *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* comes into effect replacing the *Day Nurseries Act* and a first phase regulatory changes are also introduced.
- ❖ May 2016: A second phase of regulatory changes are introduced including regulatory changes under the Education Act for the provision of before and after school programs for 6-12 year olds.
 - Through this engagement the ministry received over 1300 submissions from municipalities, licensed child care providers, advocacy groups and professional associations, school boards, registered early childhood educators, and parents and individuals.
- ❖ What we heard regarding before and afterschool programs for 6-12 year olds:
 - Recognizing the role of recreation in offering age appropriate programs for school-aged children.
 - Need to ensure consistent approach regardless of whether child is in licensed care, board operated or authorized recreation.
 - Ensure planning of before and after school programs continues to support viable options that build on partnerships and programs that are addressing needs of community.

Before/After School Care for 6-12 Year Olds

- ❖ Informed by consultations and feedback received, effective September 2017, school boards will be required to offer a before and after school program for 6-12 year olds in all schools where there is sufficient demand:
 - Directly operated by the school board, or through a child care centre, or an authorized recreation program (after school only), on or off school property.
 - Funded by parent fees (subsidies may be available through local service system manager)
 - Requirement for school boards to consult local service system manager, parents, First Nations, existing third party programs, and Indigenous organizations serving urban Indigenous communities on planning and delivery of programs.

Next Steps

- ❖ The ministry is moving forward to develop guidelines to support an integrated approach in the planning and delivery of before and after school programs for 4-12 year olds.
- ❖ These guidelines will:
 - Support local conversations on assessing viability and demand
 - Set out requirements on communicating to parents on availability programs
 - Include programming requirements
 - Reporting requirements to the ministry
- ❖ The ministry completed regional sessions with school boards and CMSMs/DSSABs and sought feedback from community partners on the draft guidelines.
- ❖ Guidelines will be shared in late Fall with school boards and CMSMs/DSSABs

Tales From the Field

Panel Discussion

