



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Full-Day Kindergarten and Extended Day Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How will Full-Day Kindergarten work?

A: There are two components — the Core program is the school day classroom component and the Extended Day Program which represents the before and after school program. In the core program, certified teachers and registered early childhood educators will work together to deliver the Full-Day Kindergarten Program. The Extended Day Program will be led by registered early childhood educators.

Q: What happens in the classroom?

A: Through instruction and play-based learning the teacher and early childhood educator will work with the students to develop their capacity in language and mathematics, build a strong foundation for future learning, engage in healthy physical activities and the arts, and develop socially and emotionally through interaction with their peers and the adults who guide them. Classrooms will operate with a District average of 26 students to one team composed of one teacher and one early childhood educator.

Q: Is Full-Day Kindergarten mandatory?

A: No, Full-Day Kindergarten, like kindergarten, will remain optional for 4 and 5-year-olds. In Ontario, kindergarten is voluntary; children are required to attend school once they turn 6 years old. If your child is enrolled in the full day program, the extended day program, is also optional.

Q: How do I register my child?

A: You can register your child by visiting your child's designated school. To register you will require your child's birth certificate or proof of age, immunization record, health card and proof of address.

Q: When I register, can I choose to have my child attend only half days?

A: You may choose to have your child attend only half days. However, it is designed as a full day program. In addition, transportation will not be provided outside normal school hours. As such, parents will be responsible for getting their child to or from school should they choose to attend only half days. Parents who are considering this option should discuss the matter with their school principal.

Q: How will the Extended Day Program work?

A: During the school year, schools will offer an Extended Day Program before and after school which will be led by registered early childhood educators. These programs are optional and will be available for a fee. Subsidies will be available for some families from the City of Ottawa, based on financial need. Extended Day programs will operate subject to sufficient enrolment (minimum 3 students must be registered).

Q: How can I apply for the Extended Day program?

A: If your child will be attending a Full-Day Kindergarten school in the fall and you are interested in the Extended Day Program, please let us know you intend to register by completing the Extended Day Program – Child Registration available on our website www.ocdsb.ca and through your Full-Day Kindergarten school.

Q: Will all Full-Day Kindergarten schools offer the Extended Day Program?

A: A minimum of 3 students are required for the extended day program to be offered at a Full-Day Kindergarten school. More information on locations is posted on our website at www.ocdsb.ca. Please check back often for updates.

Q: How much will it cost to enrol my child in the Extended Day Program?

A: The legislation authorizes and requires school districts to charge fees to recover costs associated with operating Extended Day programs. The fee per student is currently set at around \$20 per day, payable on a monthly basis.

Q: How will subsidies be determined? Will my family be eligible for a subsidy?

A: The Ministry of Education has stated that subsidy eligibility and amounts will be determined according to the current provincial child care subsidy eligibility rules and income test. For more information please visit our website.

Q: Will the Extended Day Program be available to all 4 and 5-year-olds at the school?

A: All schools that offer Full-Day Kindergarten are expected to offer an Extended Day Program, however a minimum of 3 students will be required to operate the program. The hours and availability of before and after-school care will be determined by community needs and school start times. Generally we expect to offer services beginning at 7 a.m. until school starts and from dismissal to 6 p.m.

Q: Will the Extended Day Program be available to older children at the school?

A: The Extended Day Program could be available for 6 to 12-year-olds where there is sufficient space and is subject to demand. This will be determined on a site-by-site basis depending on the number of program registrants.

Q: Will the program be available during school holidays, PA days, and the summer?

A: Yes. The program will be available during school holidays, PA days, and during the summer, at many locations, based on parental interest.

Q: Will the school district provide busing or other transportation for children to and from the extended day program?

A: No, Parents will be responsible for getting their child to and from the Extended Day Program.

Q: How can I get more information?

A: More details are on our website, www.ocdsb.ca, or you can call the Extended Day Program office at 613-239-2378.



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