



FULL-DAY EARLY LEARNING KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM



PROGRAMME D'APPRENTISSAGE À TEMPS PLEIN DE LA MATERNELLE ET DU JARDIN D'ENFANTS

Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program

KEY FACTS

Highlights of the full-day kindergarten program for 2010-11

- ✓ 35,000 four- and five-year-olds in full-day kindergarten in September 2010—about 15 per cent of total kindergarten population
- ✓ average class size: 26 students and 2 adults
- ✓ classes staffed by a teacher and an ECE, who work as a team
- ✓ integrated extended day program (for example before school from about 7 to 9 a.m. and after school from 3:30 to 6 p.m.), on a cost-recovery basis where there is sufficient demand/enrolment
- ✓ \$200 million in support from Ministry of Education for the program in year one, \$300 million in year two, with an additional \$245 million for capital and equipping costs
- ✓ Full-day kindergarten is expected to be fully implemented by the 2015-16 school year.
- ✓ Research indicates that every \$1 in early learning funding provides a seven-to-one return on investment.

Play-based learning

- The new *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 new program is holistic and play-based—it focuses on creating an environment that promotes each child's physical, cognitive, language, emotional, social, and creative development and well-being.
- The new program document will remain in draft form for the 2010-11 school year.

Extended day program

- Where there is sufficient interest from parents, schools with full-day kindergarten will provide an integrated, extended day program from about 7 a.m. to start of school and after school until 6 p.m., as determined by community needs
- The extended day program is available to parents, on a cost-recovery basis, with subsidies available based on need and eligibility. Municipalities administer the subsidies for the extended day program.

Role of teacher and ECE in full-day kindergarten classroom

There is a team of two professionals in the full-day kindergarten classroom—a registered ECE and certified teacher, with a “duty to co-operate” on:

- planning for and providing education to students in the full-day kindergarten program
- 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 with respect to the full-day kindergarten program

Training and professional development

- Ministry of Education provided initial implementation training for school board teams in May 2010.
- Director of Education program leadership training—June 2010.
- Optional summer institutes for school board implementation teams—July and August 2010.
- School boards are encouraged and supported in the provision of professional development during 2010-11.

Transfer of responsibility for childcare

- To create a more integrated system and support transitions for children and families, the Ministry of Education has taken on responsibility for childcare.
- Transfer of responsibility will be phased in.
 - *Child care policy and program responsibilities were transferred in May 2010.*
 - *Responsibilities for funding, contract management and stakeholder management will be transferred in the fall of 2010.*

Further information can be accessed on the Internet

Ministry of Education website

www.edu.gov.on.ca/earlylearning

The Full-Day Early Learning–Kindergarten Program 2010-11, draft

www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kindergarten_english_apr13.pdf

Bill 242 The Full Day Early Learning Statute Law Amendment Act, 2010

http://www.ontla.on.ca/bills/bills-files/39_Parliament/Session2/b242ra.pdf

O.Reg. 224/10 – Full Day Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_100224_e.htm

O.Reg. 225/10 – Extended Day Programs

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_100225_e.htm

Full Day Kindergarten memos

<http://cal2.edu.gov.on.ca>

Still have questions about full-day kindergarten?

Send your questions to www.edu.gov.on.ca/earlylearning/feedback.html.