



February 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

All Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board schools will be offering Full-Day Kindergarten in September 2016. Along with the Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) program, we may be offering an extended-day program before and after-school.

The extended-day (before and after-school) program would be for families who need a program outside of regular school hours. This program is an optional fee-for-service program and children are not required to attend this program. The extended day (before and after-school) program will be led by Early Childhood Educators who will work with the Kindergarten team to support your child. The program outside of school hours will be like the play-based program that takes place during the school day following the Full-Day Kindergarten Program document. Both part-time and full-time spots will be available. Children in grade one will also be able to register in this program.

Many of our schools have not-for-profit child care operators but where there is not a child care operator, the extended day (before and after-school) program would be offered if 20 children or more are registered.

We understand many families have child care arrangements that work for their family and we would encourage families to remain with those programs if they are meeting the needs of their family. School-based extended day (before and after-school) programs are not intended to replace existing child care arrangements families already have in place.

Average cost of newly developed programs –

(schools with programs have set fees included in the survey section):

Before and After School: \$18.00

Please note, all fees are subject to change.

Families who need help with costs may be eligible for assistance (subsidy) through the City of Hamilton. For details of current eligibility criteria you can check the city's website at www.hamilton.ca and use, child care subsidy, in your search or call 905-546-4870.

If you are interested in this extended day (before and after-school) program, **please complete this on-line survey by March 31, 2016** <http://tinyurl.com/HWDSB-Child-Care> or find a paper copy of this survey in your school office.

If you would like more information, please contact Kathy MacDonald, Early Years Department, by telephone 905-527-5092 ext 2333 or by email kmmacdon@hwdsb.on.ca