



MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Presidents
Executive Members (For Information)

FROM: Jane Bennett, Professional Learning/Development Services

DATE: January 22, 2014

RE: **Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program Document, Early Years Resources and Update**

The Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program, Draft (2010) document which provides program direction for full-day kindergarten will be replaced this spring with the revised and final program document. The Ministry of Education engaged in a broad consultation process. ETFO participated and provided input into changes and updates that should be incorporated into the new document.

The release of the new and final document will occur this spring and training will be provided regionally to teams from district school boards who will disseminate the information shared within their boards. At the same time, there will be the release of the Kindergarten reporting process through the Growing Success Second Edition. There will be training provided on this new component in conjunction with the program document during the spring training sessions.

At this time we do not know the structure or content of either document or the reporting process. The current Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program, Draft (2010) and The Kindergarten Program (2006) will cease to be used and the new document will replace these. ETFO staff will continue to monitor the progress of the documents and what the reporting process will be and will share information when it is provided. Both documents will be released in the spring for implementation and roll out in the fall of 2014.

Attached to this memo is a listing of Ministry of Education Early Years Resources (Appendix A) that you and your members may find helpful. Please distribute this through your networks to members working in FDK classrooms and members responsible for implementation and support for FDK at the district school board office.

JB:IK
Attachment

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION EARLY YEARS RESOURCES 2013-2014



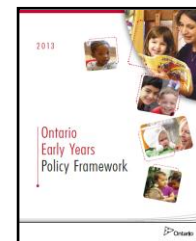
For more information about child care or full-day kindergarten visit our website at:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/> or <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/>

Print Materials and Resources

Ontario Early Years Policy Framework (2013)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/OntarioEarlyYear.pdf>

The *Ontario Early Years Policy Framework* builds on our collective progress and builds a vision for the early years to ensure children from 0-6 years of age have the best possible start in life. The framework is supported by a set of guiding principles and provides strategic direction to our early years partners both within and outside government.



Think, Feel, Act: Lessons from Research About Young Children (2013)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/research.html>

The Ministry worked with leading experts in the field of early childhood education to develop online professional learning resources for professionals working in early years settings. The new resources include research briefs and video clips that highlight key research findings and practical tips for educators related to seven elements of early years program quality. They are intended to encourage critical reflection and discussion about these ideas and challenge educators as they consider their daily practice from new perspectives.



A Meta-Perspective on the Evaluation of Full-Day Kindergarten during the First Two Years of Implementation (2013)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/FDKReport2013.pdf>

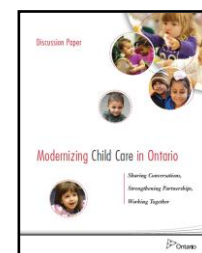
This is an integrative, evaluation report that highlights the impact of FDK and helps to identify effective practices to improve the delivery of the program. It was informed by: The Social Program Evaluation Group – Queen's University *Final Report: Evaluation of the Implementation of the Ontario Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program*, Fall 2012 and the Offord Centre for Child Studies – McMaster University *The Full Day Kindergarten Early Learning Program Final Report*, October 2012; and the Ministry of Education, Government of Ontario.



Modernizing Child Care in Ontario: Sharing Conversations, Strengthening Partnerships, Working Together (2012)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/modernizing.html>

Modernizing Child Care In Ontario: Sharing Conversations, Strengthening Partnerships, Working Together began a conversation that will help move Ontario towards a high quality, accessible and coordinated early learning and child care system. The discussion paper was developed to encourage feedback from families and partners to help inform and guide next steps towards modernization of child care in Ontario.



The Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program, Draft (2010)

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kindergarten_english_june3.pdf

This document provides program direction for full-day kindergarten, including descriptions of play-based learning and the roles of the teacher and early childhood educator team. The document also provides an overview of the six learning areas with program expectations.



The Extended Day Program, Draft (2010)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kinderProgram2010.pdf>

The *Extended Day Program* is complementary to the core *Full-Day Early Learning-Kindergarten Program* and aligned with it in order to provide a seamless and consistent experience for children.



Full-Day Kindergarten for Four- and Five-Year Olds Fact Sheet

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/EarlyLearnFS.pdf> (Service Ontario #232557)

Full- Day Kindergarten: A Question and Answer Guide for Parents

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/QsAsguide.pdf> (Service Ontario # 232558)



In Conversation <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/leadership/InConversation.html>

In Conversation is a series of papers developed to support Ontario school and system leaders containing thought-provoking ideas on strategic and topical issues. Some titles in this series: *Strong Roots, Bright Futures: the Promise of Education and early human development* by the late Dr. Fraser Mustard (Winter 2010/11), *21st Century Leadership: Looking Forward* (Fall 2012) *Know Thy Impact: Teaching, Learning and Leading* (Spring 2013) among others.



Child Care in Ontario <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/multi/english/ChildCareEN.pdf>

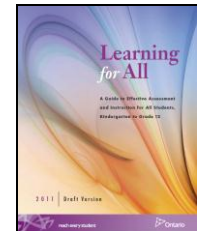
This publication provides parents with general child care information including: the difference between licensed and unlicensed child care, considerations in finding the right child care, subsidy information and reporting child care concerns. It is available in 21 different languages.



Learning for All K-12 (2011)

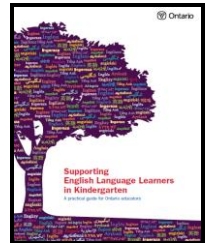
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/LearningforAll2011.pdf>

This resource describes an integrated process of assessment and instruction supporting the learning of all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 and includes evidence-based and research-informed educational approaches including Assessment for Learning, Universal Design for Learning and Differentiated Instruction.



Supporting English Language Learners in Kindergarten: A Practical Guide for Ontario Educators (2007) <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/kindergarten/index.html>

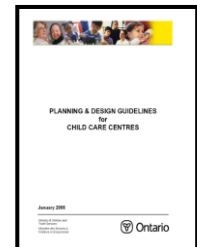
This resource is designed for school staff as they support English Language Learners in achieving the overall expectations of the Kindergarten program. It provides a rich source of research findings, practices, and strategies that can be put to immediate use in the classroom.



Planning and Design Guidelines for Child Care Centres (2006)

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/planning_and_design.pdf

This guide provides guidance in the planning, design and renovation of licensed child care centres and licensed nursery school facilities. It is intended to support the development of facilities that are child and family oriented, environmentally safe and secure, promote healthy growth, are aesthetically pleasing, functional in their design, and cost effective to operate.



Monographs: What Works: Research into Practice and Capacity Building Series

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/whatWorks.html>

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/capacityBuilding.html>

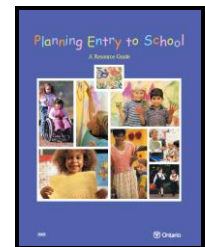
What Works: Research into Practice monographs are concise research summaries designed to help practitioners put evidence-tested ideas into practice at the classroom level. A title in this series is *Language and Literacy* by Janette Pelletier (October 2011). The *Capacity Building* monographs provide research and practical strategies on key topics for 21st century educators. Titles in this series is *Maximising Student Mathematical Learning in the Early Years* (September 2011), *The Third Teacher* (July 2012), *Pedagogical Documentation* (October 2012) and others.



Planning Entry to School: A Resource Guide (2005)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/planningentry.pdf>

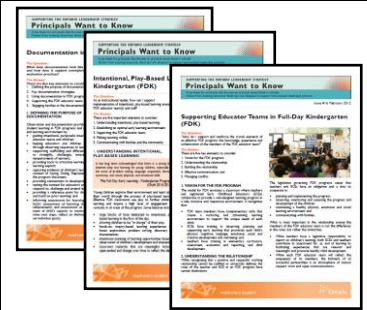
This resource guide identifies evidence-based research and effective practices and processes to facilitate transitions into school. It is designed to help school staff to work with parents and community partners as they plan students' entry to school.



Principals Want to Know Tip Sheets (2012)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/leadership/principalsWanttoKnow.html>

Principals Want to Know is a series of tip sheets to support instructional leadership practice. They respond to requests by principals to assist with focusing resources on practical issues they are facing in schools. Each tip sheet features a question from a principal and then provides tips for success. Titles supporting the early years include: *Documenting in FDK: Making Children's Learning Visible* (#15), *Supporting Strong Educator Teams for Full-Day Kindergarten* (#16) and *Intentional, Play-Based Learning* (#17).



Websites, Web-Based and DVD Resources

Early Learning Framework (2011) <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/oelf/>

Based on the Best Start Expert Panel document *Early Learning for Every Child Today: A framework for Ontario early childhood settings* (2007), this web-based resource is a guide to support program development in child care and other early childhood settings. The website highlights the Framework's guiding principles which set the foundation for optimal learning and development. The website includes videos of educators and experts sharing their ideas on how to put the principles into practice, photos of learning environments and more.



Kindergarten GAINS <http://www.edugains.ca/newsite/fulldaykinder/index.html#>

Kindergarten GAINS provides educators with resources to support implementation of *The Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program* (Draft 2010). Background information about the program, related links and resources including a selection of video resources, accompanied by viewer guides, are available on the site. Additional resource materials are in development and will be posted on the site as they become available.



K to 2 Connections <http://kto2connections.wordpress.com/>

This series of K to 2 digital papers is an e-learning experience designed for teachers, ECEs, administrators and support staff in Kindergarten and Grade 1, 2 and 3 classrooms who want to further explore learning and teaching in the early years. It consists of four self-guided modules: professional collaborative inquiry, learning environment, learning in an inquiry stance and pedagogical documentation. Each module consists of provocation questions to provoke thinking and discussion, research quotes, quotes from early primary teams across the province, video documentation and supporting resources such as monographs and research articles.



Licensed Child Care Website www.ontario.ca/licensedchildcare

The Licensed Child Care Website provides parents with information about licensed child care in Ontario. A search tool allows parents to search for child care by city, postal code, type of program, age group, program name, operator name and/or language of service delivery. The website provides the status of a licence and the terms and conditions of the licence for any licensed program. It also includes: the date of the last licensing inspection and overall compliance level for the inspection; a licensing inspection summary; and detailed inspection findings.



The Day Nurseries Act for Child Care Supervisors of Ontario website

<http://www.childcarelearning.on.ca/>

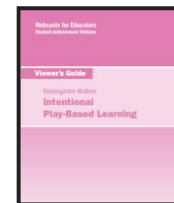
This interactive website is designed to support supervisors in Ontario's licensed, centre-based child care programs to better understand provincial licensing requirements. The website provides easy to understand information about *the Day Nurseries Act* regulations with videos, graphics and an interactive self-test feature. It can be used by child care supervisors, operators, early childhood educators, program staff, students, parents and anyone who is interested in learning more about licensed child care.



Kindergarten Matters: Intentional Play-Based Learning (2011)

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/publications/fall_2011.html

This two-disc DVD set explores how educators are rethinking teaching and assessment practices in order to engage young children in thinking creatively, solving problems and sharing their learning with others. Some other supports from the LNS include: *Thinking About Thinking: Setting the Stage for Independent Reading*, *Developing Inquiry Minds* and *Precision in the Primary Classroom* and others.



Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program for Four- and Five-Year-Olds: A Reference Guide for Educators, 2010

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/kinder2010.pdf> (Service Ontario # 232343)

This document supports the *Full-Day Early Learning—Kindergarten Program* document (Draft version, 2010-11) and is intended to serve as a guide for educators to facilitate conversations that will promote excellence in the Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program.



Early Learning Memos

Links to **EL Memos** can be found at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/kindergarten/memosummary.html>

The Ministry of Education communicates directives, guidelines and new developments to school boards and other partners through memos. For full-day kindergarten and child care, most of the memos are “EL” or early learning memos. These are numbered chronologically in the year that they were issued and can be found at the link above.

Legislation and Regulations

Day Nurseries Act: http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90d02_e.htm

O. Reg. 262 http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_900262_e.htm

Education Act: www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90e02_e.htm

O. Reg. 224/10 Full-Day Junior and Kindergarten Program www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_100224_e.htm

O. Reg. 221/11 Extended Day and Third Party Programs www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_110221_e.htm

Webinars and Webcasts

Webinar: Overview of Changes to Extended Day and Third Party Programs (originally broadcast June 14, 2011)

<http://events.digitalmedia.telus.com/ontarioeducationeld/061411/index.php>

Webinar: New Policy Requirement for Child Care Operators: Serious Occurrence Notification Form Posting (originally broadcast October 12, 2011)

<http://events.digitalmedia.telus.com/ontariochildcare/092011/index.php>

<http://events.digitalmedia.telus.com/ontariochildcare/101211/index.php>

Other helpful information:

Parent Engagement resources including tips, tools and video podcasts for parents: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/abc123/eng/>
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/getinvolved.html>

Safe Schools resources: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/safeKit.html>

Ontario Leadership Strategy resources: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/leadership/index.html>