



Full-day kindergarten matters

- Skilled, well-educated people are critical for Ontario's economic prosperity. Full-day kindergarten is an important step forward in helping our children – and our province – meet the challenges of the 21st century.
- Full-day kindergarten gives teachers time to give children individual attention. It gives children time to develop academic and social skills.
- Full-day kindergarten gives all children a chance to bloom and become the best learners they can be.



Preparing our children for a bright future

For more information go to etfo.ca



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Preparing our children for a bright future

Why full-day kindergarten matters

Preparing our children for a bright future

Full-day kindergarten is good for children

Research shows that a play-based kindergarten program matched to a child's age and level of maturity has many advantages. Full-day kindergarten

- improves lifelong learning
- develops language and math skills
- teaches children how to work and play with others.

Full-day kindergarten gives all children, no matter what their background, a chance to bloom and become the best learners they can be.

Schools are the best place for children to learn

Our schools have many resources that can support full-day kindergarten programs: the school library, the gymnasium, the lunch room, and outdoor play spaces are there for teachers and their young students to use.

Teachers who specialize in physical education, music, art, and drama can provide stimulating learning opportunities. Special education teachers can help identify and help remediate learning problems early on.

In a supportive and stimulating school environment children become interested and involved in their own learning.

Children learn best from qualified teachers

Qualified teachers who have studied how children learn are able to create the best possible learning environment for them. They know how to help children develop the skills they need to be successful learners.

Using play-based methods, teachers can structure learning that develops children's skills in reading, writing, and math. Children also learn how to cooperate, how to pay attention, and how to solve problems.

Qualified teachers have four or five years of university education. A growing number have additional specialized training in early learning. All teachers take part in ongoing professional development.

A seamless school day is good for parents

Full-day kindergarten is a rich resource available to every family, no matter what their income.

When full-day kindergarten is supported by child care in schools, parents have peace of mind knowing that their children are spending the day in a safe, secure, and stimulating environment. They no longer have to worry about how their children will get from child care to school and back. They know that their children are getting the benefits of the skills and knowledge of professional teachers as part of the early learning team.

Full-day kindergarten is good for our whole community

Our schools are an important part of the community. Adding full-day kindergarten combined with child care programs makes the school an even more valuable resource. It is another step toward making schools a hub for children's services.

In the 2007 provincial election campaign Premier Dalton McGuinty promised to establish full-day junior and senior kindergarten programs for Ontario children. It's a commitment that heralds an exciting expansion of learning opportunities for our children.

