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| <b>Section:</b><br><b>SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT</b> | <b>Name of Policy:</b><br><b>FEE SUBSIDY FOR CHILDREN OF KINDERGATEN AGE</b> |
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**APPROVED BY:** Director, Children's Services**DATE:** February 21, 2008**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 21, 2008**LATEST REVISION:** January 4, 2016**Authority:** Niagara Region Children's Services**Intent:** To provide clarity to service providers and families regarding fee subsidy payments for children who are eligible for Full Day Kindergarten (FDK).**Definition:** Children eligible for FDK are those children who will turn 4 by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current calendar year.**Policy:** All children turning 4 years of age by the end of December are expected to register for FDK and attend elementary school.**Procedure:** In February of each year, school boards open registration for FDK.

All families in receipt of fee subsidy who have children that will turn 4 by the end of December are expected to register for FDK and will also register for their child care requirements for September of the year.

All families requiring child care fee subsidy for non-instructional days will confirm their needs with their Children's Services Caseworker during their yearly update.

All families with children who are turning 4 by the end of December will receive a letter from the Director of Children's Services in January through their Children's Services Caseworker, and/or their child care centre, informing them that fee subsidy will only be available for non-instructional times and days of school operation.

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Date: January 15, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

The Ministry of Education of Ontario has implemented Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) for all children in every elementary school. This letter is to inform you of the policies and expectations of Children's Services with regard to subsidized child care.

Full Day Kindergarten is a universal program for all children. As such, when your child is eligible for enrollment at school, (September of this year), Children's Services will only subsidize non instructional times and days for fee subsidy-before and after school and Professional Development days, March Break etc.

You can register for school at the following web sites:

- District School Board of Niagara [www.dsbni.org](http://www.dsbni.org)
- Niagara Catholic District School Board: [www.niagaracatholic.ca](http://www.niagaracatholic.ca)
- Conseil Scolaire Viamonde [www.csviamonde.ca](http://www.csviamonde.ca)
- Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique Centre-Sud [www.csdccs.edu.on.ca](http://www.csdccs.edu.on.ca)

In order to register for before and after school child care, you are requested to register at:

<https://niagara.onehsn.com/>

Please contact your Child Care Fee Subsidy Caseworker to discuss any challenges you may have, and they will be happy to assist you.

Regards,



Darlene Edgar, RECE, Director

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Date: January 15, 2016

Dear Service Operator:

The Ministry of Education of Ontario has implemented Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) for all children in every elementary school. This letter is to inform you of the policies and expectations of Children's Services with regard to subsidized child care.

Full Day Kindergarten is a universal program for all children. As such, when children are eligible for FDK, Children's Services **will only subsidize non-instructional times and days for:**

Before and After School and Professional Development Days, March Break etc.

This policy will take effect for the start of the new school year. As such, Service Providers must inform families of the policy and share with them the accompanying letter from Children's Services (attached).

Please ensure that your Centre(s) are listed on the registry, to ensure that families looking for care can register for your program: <https://niagara.onehsp.com/>

Regards,



Darlene Edgar, RECE, Director