



POLICY SECTION: Buildings Plant Grounds
SUB-SECTION: Rental Permits
POLICY NAME: Early Learning and Childcare Programs
POLICY NO: B.R.02

Date Approved:

May 15, 2003 – Board Meeting

Date of Next Review:**Dates of Amendments:**

BM p 15 May 03; BM p 95, 16 Jan 97; BM p 124, 16 Jun 88; BM p 17 Dec 87; BM p 126, 19 Jun 86; BM p 371, Jun 85; BM p 211, Feb 81; BM p 259, Apr 77.

Cross References:**Appendix****Purpose:**

The Toronto Catholic District School Board supports the establishment of quality Childcare programs and Family support programs in its schools. This policy outlines the processes and procedures to establish such programs.

Scope and Responsibility:

This Policy is under the purview of the Director of Education.

Alignment with the Multi Year Strategic Plan [MYSP]:

Living Our Catholic Values

Enhancing Public Confidence

Fostering Student Achievement and Well-Being

Achieving Excellence in Governance

Providing Stewardship of Resources



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Inspiring and Motivating Employees

Policy:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board supports the establishment of quality early learning and child care programs in schools.

Regulations:

1. Services for young children within the school setting provide a supportive and secure environment and a continuum of care for the transition from care to school. School space for exclusive childcare use is provided through the Ministry of Education funding for retrofits and for new capital projects. Before and After School programs are made available using shared space in age-appropriate classrooms. Tenure of space is done on a cost recovery basis for no less than one school year.
2. TCDSB partners with the Ministry of Education and Toronto Children's Services Division to support quality childcare programs that are accessible to children and families. Child Care Centres and Before and After School programs are provided by third party operators. These programs are licensed by the Ministry of Education and overseen by Toronto Children's Services Division in partnership with TCDSB.
3. With respect to new programs, operators are secured through a TCDSB Request for Proposal process in partnership with the City of Toronto Children's Services Division. All third party childcare providers must be not-for-profit, be in good standing with the Ministry of Education, have a Service Agreement for Fee Subsidy from City of Toronto Children's Services Division and meet TCDSB criteria.



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4. The school principal or designate shall be consulted and have input into all matters of the Early Learning and Child Care Programs as it relates to school space, regulations or school policy. Shared space classrooms will be determined by the principal in collaboration with the Early Learning Program Department and the childcare operator. These shared spaces will be age appropriate and licensed by the Ministry of Education to ensure that they meet all legislation and regulations.

5. Programs that are located within TCDSB schools must show proof of licensing by the Ministry of Education as well as required insurance coverage.

6. The operators of each program should hold a minimum of one meeting per year with the principal to discuss matters related to the program.

7. In the matter of leases:

(a) Each program must have a fully executed Lease/License agreement with the Board.

(b) The renewal of the lease or license agreement is subject to the needs of the Board.

(c) Programs that have exclusive or shared space within TCDSB schools will be charged rent on a cost recovery basis as per Board policy, subject to annual increases.

(d) Each organization shall, upon request, submit a notarized financial statement to the Director of Education.

7. The TCDSB reserves the right to develop rules and regulations to ensure the safety standards in buildings housing Early Learning and Child Care Programs.



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Evaluation and Metrics:

The effectiveness of the policy will be determined by measuring the following:

1. Recommendations in this report will be monitored by policy development staff.
2. Further reports will be brought to Board in accordance with the policy review schedule.