



September 1, 2021

Children's Services
Social & Community Services
Department
Halton Region
690 Dorval Drive 5th Floor
Oakville ON L6K 3X9

RE: Return to in-person services

Dear Service Providers,

I am writing to provide important updates for return to in-person services for inclusion services, preschool facilitators and Quality First.

Inclusion Services

Beginning September 7th, 2021, inclusion services, through your resource consultant, will begin offering in-person services through a hybrid model of in-person and virtual visits. We are excited to be able to return to in-person services to support the children and educators within your program. The safe delivery of in-person services is our top priority and your resource consultant will work closely with you to ensure the health and safety of staff and children. Please note that virtual visits will remain available to you if you are limiting visitor access to your site. The attached fact sheet provides details on the roles and responsibilities of resource consultants, availability of services and roles and responsibilities of child care centre staff.

As resource consultants return to in-person service, we will be moving to a cluster model of service delivery for inclusion. The cluster model will align resource consultants from Halton Region, Community Living Burlington and Community Living North Halton to a cluster or group of child care centres based on geography and centre licensed capacity. This allows resource consultants to provide service to more child care centres and further support educators across Halton Region. The resource consultant assigned to your centre will communicate all changes and support any staff transitions that may be required.

Preschool Facilitators

Preschool facilitators will also be available beginning September 7th, 2021 to provide in-classroom supports. Preschool facilitators can support your educators to develop their skills on classroom arrangement, positive interactions, self-regulation, routines and transitions. You can request a preschool facilitator by calling The Centralized Intake Line at (905) 875-4600 x133.

Quality First

As you are aware, participation in Quality First was made optional during COVID-19 while operators were adjusting to the new operational guidance. Now that everyone is more comfortable with the operational guidance, participation in Quality First is no longer optional and is required in accordance with your Child Care Service Management Agreement. Similar to inclusion services, Quality First will also be implementing a hybrid model of virtual and in-person support. Virtual opportunities will be available beginning September 7th and on-site services if preferred, will resume October 4th, 2021. Quality First consultants will continue to support your educators with implementing How Does Learning Happen?, professional learning opportunities, development of goal setting for their classrooms, and fostering of adult-child relationships.

Regional Municipality of Halton

HEAD OFFICE: 1151 Bronte Rd, Oakville, ON L6M 3L1
905-825-6000 | Toll free: 1-866-442-5866

Please reach out to your Quality First consultant to schedule and complete your next consultation by October 31st, 2021. Should you have questions about Quality First, please contact Melanie Cunha at melaniec@thrc.ca or 905-875-4600 ext. 245.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy Palinski". The script is cursive and fluid.

Sandy Palinski
Director, Children's Services

Attached: Fact Sheet