



January 6, 2022

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

## RE: SCHOOL AGE EMERGENCY CHILD CARE

Dear Service Providers,

On January 3, 2022, Premier Doug Ford ordered a range of time-limited public health actions to help curb the spread of COVID-19 in the context of the Omicron variant. Child care will remain open during this time. Effective January 5, 2022 when elementary schools are operating remotely, before and after school programs will be closed. Licensed child care centres are prohibited from serving school aged children who are registered in school during this time.

The Ministry of Education announced the reintroduction of targeted emergency child care for school aged children, at no cost to eligible health care and frontline workers. Given the short timelines for implementation, most sites previously offering emergency child care, will once again provide this service. The list of sites offering emergency child care for school aged children in Halton is attached for your information and can be found on [halton.ca](https://www.halton.ca). Sites will begin offering care on or before January 10, 2022.

A family's eligibility for targeted emergency child care is determined in accordance with criteria set out by the Ministry of Education and Halton Region. For two-parent families, both must be required to work outside the home and at least one must be an eligible worker. If there is one-parent working from home, the family is deemed ineligible. The Province has also created a prioritization process for eligible families. Eligible workers can apply for emergency child care by contacting one of the child care centres directly. Spaces are limited. Operators will prioritize services for frontline health care workers providing in person care (including hospital and acute care staff, medical first responders, pharmacists and pharmacy assistants and community health care workers).

Halton Region will monitor enrolment for emergency child care and consider expansion through new operators, if needed. If you are interested in providing school age emergency child care, please email [childcareservices@halton.ca](mailto:childcareservices@halton.ca) by Tuesday January 11 at 10 AM. Please include the following information:

- Site location;
- Address;
- License number;
- Current licensed age groups;
- Licensed capacity by age group; and
- License amendments, if required.

Additional sites will be selected based on community demand, school age capacity and licensing history.

### Regional Municipality of Halton

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

If you have questions regarding targeted emergency child care, please email [childcareservices@halton.ca](mailto:childcareservices@halton.ca) or call Access Halton at 311 or 905-825-6000.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandy Palinski".

Sandy Palinski  
Director, Children's Services

Attachment:  
Halton Region Targeted Emergency Child Care Providers

cc: Samantha Jackson, Acting Manager, Systems Planning and Evaluation  
Donette Phillips, Manager, Direct Child Care Services  
Catherine Wills, Manager, Children's Developmental Services