

Getting Ready for Kindergarten

...starting school is a big step !

How Parents Can Help

- o Help your child make choices at home (e.g. clothes to wear, activities to do).
- o Provide opportunities for your child to be with other children, to learn to share, wait, and take turns.
- o Provide new situations for your child (e.g., going to the library for story time). Talk about what to expect beforehand. Respond positively to your child's efforts to adapt.
- o Encourage your child to practice putting on jackets, snow pants, boots, etc. independently.
- o Encourage your child to use language to make needs known and to solve problems (e.g. getting a drink, going to the bathroom, asking for help).
- o Involve your child in writing (e.g. drawing, making cards, and signing.) Talk about your child's name and the letters in their name. Encourage and celebrate your child's attempt to write.
- o Tell stories and say poems and rhymes in your own language. Read to your child and talk about the pictures, the ideas, and the words and letters. Point out words, numbers, and signs in the community. Visit the library with your child.
- o Talk with your child about the things they see or hear on walks and trips.

Credit: Toronto District School Board



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Talk 2 Me Transition to School Committee:
Connections Early Years Family Centre
Children First
John McGivney Children's Centre
Greater Essex County District School Board
Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board
Conseil scolaire catholique Providence
Conseil scolaire Viamonde
Erie St. Clair LHIN

Getting Ready For School

Information for families of preschool children with speech, language and/or literacy difficulties entering Junior or Senior Kindergarten



**Provided by:
Talk 2 Me, Transition to School Committee**

Tel: 519-252-0636

Speech and Language Services for a CHILD (ages 4 - 5) AND THEIR FAMILY

TALK 2 ME SYSTEM

Provider Agencies: Children First, John McGivney Children's Centre, Connections Early Years Family Centre

1. **Provides speech and language services for children from birth until JK entry** (if the child will be attending the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board, Greater Essex County District School Board, Conseil scolaire catholique Providence or Conseil scolaire Viamonde) **OR**
2. **Provides speech and language services from birth until SK entry** (if the child is not enrolled in JK, is home schooled or in private school) **OR**
3. **Provides speech and language services for children with complex special needs** who are SK aged, but for whom SK is not the most appropriate setting.
4. **Provides a Transition to School Plan** for children entering school for the first time.

SCHOOL BOARDS

Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board & Greater Essex County District School Board & Conseil scolaire catholique Providence & Conseil scolaire Viamonde

Provides speech and language services for children starting in JK. Services may include: assessment, parent information, home programs, consultation and program recommendations to school staff, short term intervention, in-service for school staff and linkages with community agencies.

SCHOOL-BASED REHABILITATION SERVICES (SBRS)

John McGivney Children's Centre (JMCC)

Provides health related speech and language services to publicly funded school boards starting in JK. Referrals to JMCC Central Intake.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH SCHOOL SERVICES PROGRAM (CHSS)

Erie St. Clair LHIN

Provides health related speech and language services to children in private schools, as well as children receiving home instruction starting in JK. Referrals are sent to LHIN Care Coordinators.

Children with the following communication difficulties are eligible for these services:
severe articulation and/or motor speech, voice, fluency and non-verbal communication.