

October 2019



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

In support of the Kindergarten program, Avon Maitland District School Board is determining which schools have enough parental interest to offer before and after school programs for four and five year olds and *potentially* children aged 6 to 12. At this point, we are asking all families with children in elementary schools to share their tentative childcare needs for September 2020.

Avon Maitland District School Board is providing access to a Before and After School Care survey through a link on our board website <http://yourschools.ca>. (Programs & Services/Before and After School program)

Why should the survey be completed?

Each school board in Ontario has a responsibility to determine if there is a need for before and after school programs for 3.8 to 12 year olds. Surveying families about their childcare needs is a priority.

Why does the Board need this information now?

Once sufficient interest is determined, especially for schools that do not currently have before or after school programs, it can take several months to establish a provider and have the program in place for the following September. We appreciate this information coming in early. This is not a registration form.

Who should complete the survey?

You should complete this survey if...

- you are interested in before or after school program for children entering JK in Sept 2020
- are interested in before or after school programs for children currently in JK through grade 5 (or aged 3.8 to 12 before December 31st of the next school year)

My school already has a before and after school program, should I still complete the survey?

Yes. Even if a before and after school program is already established in your school, there is the chance that a separate program for four and five year olds can be established. If we know the grade of all your children who may enrol or who are currently enrolled, we can assist in the planning with program staff.

What will the survey ask?

Families will be asked to provide information about how many children may be attending; their respective grade, whether care is requested on PA Days or other non-instructional days, which school, which days of the week, and suggested times.

<http://yourschools.ca>

When should it be completed?

We are asking families to complete the survey on-line by December 2nd.

What if I cannot access the survey on-line?

Should any families require a paper copy of the survey, please request one from the school. Please ensure that it is returned to the school by December 2nd.

Who is providing Before and After School Programs?

Avon Maitland District School Board has agreements with area childcare providers who will run before and after school programs at viable schools. Please see the board web site - Programs & Services/Before and After School Program - for a detailed listing of current providers and schools.

How much will it cost?

Prices vary according to the provider. Please check the board website for examples of current costs. Please note that costing may not be similar across the region, and costs are subject to change.

Note: In the event that during a school year, a childcare provider is no longer able to provide a before and after school program and a replacement program cannot be offered by another provider, AMDSB may offer the program at a current rate of \$35.00. Times operated and fees are subject to change. Fees for non-instructional days are additional, if offered. Program status will be reviewed annually and is dependent on viability.

Can I apply for a subsidy?

Yes. For more information about subsidies in Perth County, please contact the City of Stratford Social Services Department at 519-271-3773 or 1-800-669-2948, ext 200 and speak to an Intake Clerk or email socialsrv@stratford.ca.

In Huron County, please call 1-888-371-5718 or go on line at <http://www.huroncounty.ca/childrens-services/child-care-subsidy>

Thank you for providing this information. We look forward to your continued support.

Personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the *Education Act* and will be used to determine the possibility of offering before and after school programs at AMDSB elementary schools. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Superintendent of Education, Jane Morris or System Principal of Program, Bevan Moir, Avon Maitland District School Board, 62 Chalk Street North, Seaforth, N0K 1W0 telephone (519) 527-0111 or (800) 592-5437.