

 

***Sent on behalf of TDSB Child Care Services***

Dear Child Care and Before- and After-School Program Colleagues,

Further to the brief update sent yesterday afternoon, we want to provide a more detailed update on the provincial government’s unprecedented decision to close all publicly-funded schools in Ontario, including those at the Toronto District School Board, from March 14 to April 5, 2020 amid the growing concerns over the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

Through this Ministerial Order from the Minister of Education, the Ontario government is ordering school boards to close schools to minimize contact between people, especially children, in order to contain the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). For this reason, **all childcare centres located inside TDSB schools will also be closed** and all TDSB Extended Day Programs will be cancelled from **March 14 through to April 5, 2020**. We recognize that these closures and cancellations will be challenging for many families, especially those with limited childcare options and/or work flexibility. However, this approach is to ensure the health and wellbeing of all families and is consistent with the Ministerial Order to close schools and the decisions of many other school boards.

This information is posted on our website at [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) but we ask that program operators **please connect directly with families in your programs so that they are aware of this direction.** For your reference, the letter sent to all TDSB families has been attached.

We appreciate your patience and understanding in this difficult decision however the TDSB must prioritize the health and safety of children, families and staff at this time.

Sincerely,

**Child Care Services**

**Toronto District School Board**

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