

January 7, 2021

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

Today, the government [announced](https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/59890/ontario-extends-teacher-led-online-learning-until-january-25-to-keep-students-and-staff-safe-in-sout) that elementary schools across Ontario, including those at the TDSB, will remain closed until Monday, January 25, 2021. This decision to keep elementary schools closed was made as a direct result of the increasing COVID-19 cases and continued collective efforts to keep people safe. During this time, all Before-and After-School Programs are prohibited from serving children in Kindergarten –Grade 6. Child care programs serving infant, toddler and preschool age children may continue to operate, including those in TDSB schools.

In order to support eligible parents of school-aged children who may not be able to accommodate their child’s remote learning/care at home, Emergency Child Care will continue to be available, including those in TDSB schools. For further information in regards to eligibility and locations of the Emergency Child Cares, please visit the City of Toronto’s [website.](https://www.toronto.ca/news/emergency-child-care-available-for-school-aged-children-of-designated-essential-service-workers-during-remote-learning-week/)

During this school closure, Before-and After-School Program staff may access their program space in TDSB schools for required work but are encouraged to work from home if possible. Access should be coordinated with school Principals and Caretaking Staff. All Toronto Public Health and TDSB protocols must be followed at all times when onsite, including but not limited to screening, PPE use and physical distancing.

Further information will be posted on our website at [www.tdsb.on.ca](http://www.tdsb.on.ca) but we ask that program operators **please connect directly with the families in your programs so they are aware of this direction.**

We appreciate your continued understanding, as we all work to navigate through this together. Please don’t hesitate to connect with our team should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Child Care Services**

**Toronto District School Board**

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