

## Facts

- Children may start school in September if they turn 4 yrs. (JK-Year 1) or 5 yrs. (SK-Year 2) by December 31 of that school year. Children are not legally required to attend school until age 6.
- Discuss your child's needs and your options with your current service provider (Service Coordinator, Therapist, or Resource Consultant): with whomever you are most comfortable and familiar.
- Please register your child in your home/ neighbourhood school. Note: If you are considering Catholic education, proof of Catholicity is required.
- Contact the Principal of your home school regarding registering your child. Also, tell the Principal about your child's needs.
- You may change your mind at any time during the process however; early planning provides time to put supports in place if required.

**If at any time you have questions or concerns, call your child's Service Coordinator, Therapist, Resource Consultant or the contact at the school.**

## Tips for Families/Caregivers

- Planning ahead helps with a smooth transition to the school system.
- It is suggested that you start this process the Fall prior to your child entering school to help provide lots of time for planning.
- The Principal is your first contact at the school. They may assign another staff to be your contact within the school.



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# Steps to School



**This information is provided by Pathways Health Centre for Children in partnership with:**

**The St. Clair Catholic District School Board**

**and**

**The Lambton Kent District School Board**

# SCHOOL ENTRY PROCESS:

*for children involved with Pathways services who are beginning school at the Lambton Kent District School Board or the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.*

## Children with High Needs:

Children who may require **extensive** support, special equipment, **constant** supervision or redirection, support with transitions (e.g. behavioural, mental health, physical needs).

- Transition to School Summary Reports
- March/April transition to school meeting will be held with School/School Board at Pathways or virtually
- Transition to School meeting may be held with School/School Board at home school or virtually

## Children with Moderate Needs:

Children who may require staff awareness, **frequent** supervision or redirection, a **moderate** amount of support and who may require on-going intervention and/or specialized equipment.

- Transition to School Summary Reports
- Transition to School meeting may be held with School/School Board at home school or virtually

## Children with Low Needs:

Children who are involved in at least one clinical service who receive a limited amount of intervention and consultation.

- Transition to School Summary Reports
- Transition to School meeting may be held upon request at home school or virtually

# .....Time Line.....

## SEPTEMBER

(one year before school)

- Families begin to think about options for school for the following year.

## OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

- Pathways develops a list of children age-eligible for school entry for the following September.
- Pathways Staff begin work with families to identify each child's needs for school entry. For some children, a "Transition to School Meeting" will be recommended.
- Consents are obtained to allow for the exchange of information from Pathways to schools.

## DECEMBER

- With consent from families, list of children is shared with the School Boards identifying needs of the children.

## JANUARY

- School Entry Information Session held for parents at Pathways or virtually.
- Pathways Staff complete the Transition to School Summary Reports.

## FEBRUARY / MARCH

- Parents register their child for school either during kinderSTART or by contacting the home school.
- Transitions to School Meetings take place, as required.
- With consent, Board and/or school staff may visit and observe children in their childcare or therapy settings as permitted.

## MAY / JUNE / SEPTEMBER

- The School Team may arrange a meeting to review the transition plan and ensure arrangements are in place. Families and representatives from agencies involved with the child are invited.

