



Facts:

- Children may start FDK in September if they turn 4 or 5 years by December 31 of that school year. They are not legally required to attend school until age 6.
- You may change your mind at any time during the process, however, early planning provides time to put supports in place.

- Discuss your child's extra needs and your opinions with your current service provider(s), CTC-CK therapists or LINCK consultants, whoever you are most comfortable and familiar with.

- If you choose to enroll your child in school, contact the principal of your home school to find out how and when to register your child in school. Also, tell the principal about your child's extra needs.

Tips for Parents:

- 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.

Path to School Entry for Children With Extra Needs



If at any time you have questions or concerns, call your child's CTC-CK therapist, LINCK Consultant, or contact the school.

Children's
TREATMENT CENTRE
OF CHATHAM-KENT



Providence
CONSEIL SCOLAIRE
CATHOLIQUE


Lambton Kent
District School Board



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

This information is being provided by the Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent (CTC-CK) and LINCK in partnership with Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence, St. Clair Catholic District School Board and Lambton Kent District School Board.



School Entry Process:

For preschool children entering Full-Day Kindergarten (FOK) at the Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence, Lambton Kent District School Board or the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.



Definitions:

Children with Extra Needs: Some children may require additional support in the classroom, such as special equipment, staffing or specialized transportation. Some other children may require assistance with transition (e.g. autism, behaviour or mental health needs). 'Tell Us About Your Child' form will be completed by parents and submitted to their school board. The Board will issue an invitation to parents and community partners to a Transition Preschool meeting for these children requiring extra support in the classroom.

Children requiring less intensive support will have a meeting arranged at their school in May or September



SEPTEMBER:
(one year before)
Explore options for school registration.

OCTOBER:

CTC-CK and LINCK will develop a list of children eligible for school entry for the following September and distribute information packages containing the 'Tell Us About Your Child' form to parents or guardians.

NOVEMBER:

'Path to School Entry Parent Information Night' will be held at LINCK for parents to:

- meet with School Board Special Education Representatives.
- Learn more about the school transition process.

- Have an opportunity to submit completed forms to the appropriate school board representative.

DECEMBER:

If not already done, parents complete and return 'Tell Us About Your Child' forms to the Board's Special Education Coordinator/Consultant.

JANUARY:

School Board's Special Education Coordinator/Consultant makes arrangements for the Initial Preschool Transition Meeting based on the information provided by the parent/guardian in the Tell Us About Your Child Form. CTC-CK and LINCK review the list to confirm every family who requires a transition meeting has been scheduled.

FEBRUARY:

Parents register their child at their neighbourhood school.

MARCH:

Initial Transition Meetings are scheduled with families, CTC-CK and LINCK to discuss the child's strengths and needs in more detail to create a transition plan for school entry. The Board of Education personnel and/or principal and/or resource teacher may arrange an on-site observation of the child in their current licensed childcare environment.

MAY/JUNE:

The school team will arrange a school-based meeting to review the transition plan and ensure the needs of the child are taken into account for



September.