

DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD	
<u>POLICY</u>	
POLICY NUMBER:	P-8008
SUBJECT:	Child Care in DPCDSB
EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 14, 1997
AMENDED DATE:	June 13, 2006; December 8, 2015; January 28, 2025

Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Mark 9:36-37

- 1 The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) recognizes that school-based child care complements core day school programs, supports families, and is an integral service to school communities. There is value to operating child care in school facilities.
- 2 It is the policy of DPCDSB that all levels of the organization will accommodate and welcome child care in DPCDSB facilities.
 - a) School and extended day and school aged child care program staff will collaborate to serve the best interests of the children by ensuring that routines and practices are as consistent, inclusive and complementary as possible.
 - b) Resources and physical space, both interior and exterior, are to be shared to maximize learning opportunities for all children.
- 3 The *Education Act* stipulates that school boards have direct responsibility for Extended Day Programs and School-Age Child Care Programs and must deliver these services themselves or retain a third party to deliver them on behalf of the school board. These licensed child care programs must operate on school days at all elementary schools where sufficient demand has been established.
 - a) It is the policy of DPCDSB that a Third-Party program model be used to deliver all Extended Day Programs and School-Age Child Care Programs.
- 4 Licensed child care for children aged 0-3 years operate in child care centres located in many schools. These centres are operated by independent child care providers on weekdays throughout the calendar year. While school boards have no direct legislated responsibility for these services, this policy applies equally to child care centres.
- 5 Only licensed child care that is appointed in accordance with DPCDSB child care policies shall operate in school facilities.
 - a) Any operation, advertising or referral of unlicensed child care, including babysitting and child-minding services, on DPCDSB property is prohibited.

- b) For certainty, no person shall provide child care in DPCDSB facilities except under the authority of a licence to operate a child care program or child care centre.
- 6 It is the policy of DPCDSB that all child care providers be selected and appointed through a competition process that is consistent with broader public sector accountability directives.
- a) This approach ensures the delivery of safe, financially viable, and pedagogically appropriate child care in DPCDSB facilities.
 - b) The competition process shall be facilitated by the Planning Department, in consultation with the Supply Chain Management Department and instructional supervisory officers as appropriate.
- 7 Operation of child care by more than one child care provider at any single DPCDSB location is not permitted.
- 8 A Principal may, in accordance with the *Education Act* and Ministry of Education policies, delegate any of their duties that relate to the operation of Extended Day Programs to a vice principal, a supervisor of early childhood educators, or an early childhood educator in an Extended Day Program.

9 DEFINITIONS

- a) **Child Care:** The provision of temporary care or supervision of children aged 0-12 years in any circumstance in accordance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act* or any other governing legislation.
- b) **Child Care Centres:** The purposely built and designated child care facilities in many schools that accommodate child care programs for children who are younger than the eligible age to attend regular day school.
- c) **Child Care Centre Provider Selection Committee:** Collectively, the Superintendent of Planning and Operations; the Superintendent with responsibility for early years; the Superintendent of Schools for the school in which the proposed child care centre is to be situated; the principal for the school in which the proposed child care centre is to be situated; two parent representatives; as well as a representative of the Planning Department and the Supply Chain Management Department, the latter two of which shall serve in an advisory capacity.
- d) **Extended Day Programs:** Child care programs for 4-5 year olds that are operated in accordance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act*, the *Education Act* or any other governing legislation.
- e) **Licensed Child Care:** Child care that is licensed in accordance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act* or any other governing legislation.
- f) **Local Child Care Provider Selection Committee:** Collectively, the principal for the school in which the proposed child care centre is to be situated (or an alternate principal if one has not yet been assigned to the school); at least one Catholic School Council parent representative for the school in which the proposed child care centre is to be situated (or an alternate parent representative in the case of a new school that has not yet opened); as well as a representative of the Planning Department and the Supply Chain Management Department, the latter two of which shall serve in an advisory capacity.

- g) **School-Age Child Care Programs:** Child care programs for 6-12 year olds that are operated in accordance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act*, the *Education Act* or any other governing legislation.
- h) **School-Based Child Care Programs:** Child care programs that operate in school facilities.
- i) **Third Party:** An entity, other than the school board, that provides Extended Day and School-Age Child Care Programs on behalf of the school board in accordance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act*, the *Education Act* or any other governing legislation.