

Ministry of Education

Deputy Minister

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Toronto ON M7A 1L2**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Sous-ministre

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Memorandum To: Directors of Education
Secretary-Treasurers and Supervisory Officers of School
Authorities

From: Nancy Matthews
Deputy Minister

Date: July 22, 2016

Subject: Release of the Revised Document for *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*

The full program policy document for *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*, has been posted on the Ministry of Education website (www.edu.gov.on.ca) for school boards, schools and other education stakeholders. As you know, components of this document were posted in March, 2016.

The revisions to *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*, are the result of work done through the curriculum review process by teams of educators. This work, which began in 2009, was guided by research on new approaches and pedagogies specific to the early years, benchmarking/comparing the program with that of other national and international jurisdictions, and a content analysis of information/data from the records of province-wide focus group sessions with educators. These consultations provided valuable insights into the areas of the curriculum needing strengthening.

The revised Kindergarten Program document aligns with existing and newly released government policies and documents, including *Ontario Early Years Policy Framework; How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years; Environmental Education; Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy; Growing Success: The Kindergarten Addendum; Learning for All; Mental Health Strategy, Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework; the Comprehensive Action Plan on Accepting Schools* and others.

Training for implementation of the revised program was provided using virtual and face-to-face sessions in spring 2016. Further professional learning opportunities will be offered over the course of the school year.

Print copies of *The Kindergarten Program, 2016*, will be distributed to school boards for mandatory implementation in the 2016-17 school year. Print copies of *Growing Success: The Kindergarten Addendum* will also be distributed. As previously communicated, it is the ministry's expectation that boards will implement and use the provincial Kindergarten Communication of Learning templates for the Term 2 reporting period and continue to use the provincial templates going forward from that time.

If you have any questions about this curriculum policy document, please contact the appropriate Regional Office for information. Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministry's curriculum review process.



Nancy Matthews

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