

INFORMATION ABOUT MOVING FROM PRESCHOOL TO SCHOOL

The York Region Preschool Speech and Language Program offers service to qualified children up until they are eligible for kindergarten. By planning ahead, you can make the change or transition from preschool to school go smoothly.

If your child has been involved in the Preschool Speech-Language Program he/she has been receiving speech and language support to address the communication needs of a preschooler. As a child begins kindergarten, their speech and language needs may change because the communication skills required in a classroom setting are for educational purposes. For example, they will be learning how to share information with the class, answer questions, engage in problem solving and develop literacy skills.

A child's kindergarten classroom provides a rich language environment to support the development of speech and language skills important to their educational program. This environment is created and supported by the qualified professionals and range of programs available in the school. Every school has a Speech-Language Pathologist providing consultation services.

The services and programs that your child receives in school are designed to facilitate your child's academic success. They will help your child to focus on developing the language skills necessary for reading and writing, as well as speech and communication skills.

Every effort will be made to ensure a smooth transition of your child from preschool services. Your preschool Speech-Language Pathologist, with your permission, will advise the school of your child's transition from preschool services.

The role of the school board Speech-Language Pathologist may include a range of services:

Assessment

- may include classroom-based observations and/or formal/informal tests
- may involve a single brief visit to the classroom or require several visits

Program Recommendations

- the school board Speech–Language Pathologist may provide recommendations for programs and resources to parents and staff
- they assist school staff in establishing goals and planning accommodations/strategies that support students; direct therapy is not provided by the school board Speech-Language Pathologist

Inservice Training

- to teachers, educational assistants, parents and school volunteers