



New Kindergarten Curriculum

Ontario has a new Kindergarten curriculum starting September 2026 - What families need to know

At the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, we are looking forward to what the revised Kindergarten curriculum will bring for students and families. While the document outlines learning expectations more clearly, the essence of Kindergarten remains unchanged. Young children will continue to learn through play, discovery, relationships, and meaningful, hands-on experiences.

The revised curriculum gives educators a clearer guide for strengthening foundational skills, while keeping wonder, creativity, and a strong sense of belonging at the heart of the classroom.

WHAT WILL REMAIN THE SAME?

Kindergarten will continue to feel familiar to students and families with Kindergarten teachers and Early Childhood Educators working together to support each child's development.

Families can expect:

- Play-based learning
- Faith and Religious Education integrated throughout daily experiences
- Opportunities to develop friendships and social skills

- Storytime, art, building activities, music, and outdoor exploration
- A strong emphasis on well-being and belonging
- Learning that reflects children’s interests and natural curiosity

Play continues to be the primary way children explore ideas, practice new skills, and grow in confidence.

WHAT IS CHANGING IN SEPTEMBER 2026?

Although Kindergarten remains child-centred and play-based, the revised curriculum provides clearer direction in three important areas:

Language: Greater focus on early reading and writing skills, combining structured instruction with rich opportunities for conversation and storytelling.

Mathematics: Increased emphasis on number sense and foundational math concepts, explored through daily routines, games, and hands-on activities.

Science and Technology: Expanded opportunities for inquiry and early STEM learning through building, experimenting, asking questions, and discovering how things work.

The Four Strands (Areas) of Learning: Supporting the Whole Child

The revised curriculum is organized by four key strands (areas) that support children’s overall growth:

- **Belonging and Contributing:** Developing identity, relationships, and a sense of community
- **Self-Regulation and Well-Being:** Building emotional awareness, healthy habits, and physical development
- **Foundations of Language and Mathematics:** Strengthening early literacy and numeracy skills
- **Problem Solving and Innovating:** Encouraging creativity, curiosity, and early scientific thinking

Together, these strands (areas) ensure that Kindergarten supports not only academic learning, but also social, emotional, and spiritual development.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUR CHILD

Your child will continue to experience a joyful and engaging Kindergarten experience designed to meet their individual needs. The revised curriculum provides clearer guidance for foundational learning while respecting how young children learn best — through active exploration and play.

WHERE CAN FAMILIES FIND MORE DETAILS?

For more information, families can visit the Ministry of Education’s website.

[Kindergarten Curriculum \(2026\)](#)



[Kindergarten: An overview for Parents/Caregivers](#)

