



YMCA of Niagara Child Care Re-Opening Prioritization Policy

As child care centres re-open under the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ministry of Education's Operational Guidelines, there will be reduced capacity in each centre.

The YMCA will use the following criteria to plan the return of children to the centre.

Direction: As care for each family is assessed through the following criteria, a 'yes' answer moves the family to the next criteria, a 'no' answer means the family does not qualify at this time.

A) Full Time Status

Families who were full time at the point of closure in March and have responded with their intention to continue with full time care receive priority.

B) Prioritization

Spaces will be filled according to the order of the sequential priority list as directed through the Ministry of Education's Operational Guidelines during COVID-19 Outbreak:

1. Returning children served through Emergency Child Care to their original YMCA placement.
2. Families where all parents/guardians must return to work or school outside of the home.
3. Families with Special Circumstances that would benefit from children returning to care, such as children with special needs.
4. Families where parents/guardians work or attend school inside the home.

C) Duration of Care as Final Determining Priority

If, after the above criteria are applied, there are still more families that wish to return to child care than there are spaces, then families will be prioritized based on those that have been in care the longest.

When parents are offered a space for a child(ren) who was in care prior to the COVID closure, they have 14 days to accept or decline the placement.

Future Start Dates

For families who do not have a space in the initial re-opening of the centre at this time, we will use the criteria above to bring more families back to the centre as we are able to increase capacity.



Requests to Change Care

While we will prioritize full time placements for re-opening, if families wish to request a change of care, they may do so by submitting the request to their Supervisor on the Request for Change of Registration form (ask your Supervisor for the form). We will assess requests for changes once we are able to expand capacities; full time takes priority over part time, per our policy.

New Enrollment

New families must place themselves on our online waiting list for the centre; go to <http://niagara.onehsn.com> . You will be contacted once a space becomes available. There is no fee for a family to place themselves on a waiting list.

Sept. 1, 2020