

January 1, 2019

Transition of School-Based Rehabilitation Services in Publicly-Funded Schools

The Government of Ontario is committed to providing children and youth with special needs the help they need to participate fully at home, school and in the community. In response to feedback received from families, the government is working closely with local service providers to improve the delivery of school-based rehabilitation services. These improvements will support a more seamless service experience as children start school or move between service providers, in settings that best meet their needs, regardless of where they live or who delivers the services.

A key step towards building a seamless and integrated continuum of child-centred services and supports is consolidating responsibility for provision of services within agencies focused on the needs of children and youth with special needs and their families. As part of this work, responsibility for the delivery of school-based rehabilitation services (speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy) in publicly-funded schools is being transferred from Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) to Children's Treatment Centres (CTCs) beginning in fall 2018, with full provincial implementation targeted for January 2019.

The South East Local Health Integration Network has transferred its school-based rehabilitation services (speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy) in publicly-funded schools to CTCs on January 1, 2019. Students (or their parents or guardians), whose school-based rehabilitation services are transferring, have been sent a notification by mail.

LHINs continue to be responsible for the delivery of other services students may be receiving at school and/or at home. These other services include dietitian services, nursing, personal support, and/or medical supplies and equipment.

Service providers in your community are working closely together so that students will not experience disruptions in their service during the 2018-19 school year as a result of this transfer. A student's service provision will not change as a result of this transfer. Children currently waitlisted for service will not lose their place on the wait list.

How Can I Get More Information?

For more information about this change or other supports that are available in your community, please contact 310-2222. After January 1, 2019, please contact your local CTC by calling:

Five Counties Children's Centre (Cobourg)

Phone Number: 905-377-0192

Toll-Free: 1-888-706-4734

Quinte Children's Treatment Centre (Belleville)

Phone Number: 613-969-7400

Kingston Health Science Centre – Kids Inclusive Centre for Child and Youth Development (Kingston)

Phone Number: 613-544 3400 ext. 3175

Toll-Free: 1-855-544-3400