

# Pre-Primary Fact Sheet

Nova Scotia's Pre-Primary Program will start in September 2017. Over the next four years we will open more than 250 Pre-Primary Programs across the province. During the first year, we will open 50 pre-primary classes in 43 schools across the province.

For a list of schools and detailed information about the program, please visit [www.ednet.ns.ca/pre-primary](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/pre-primary).

## Eligibility:

The pre-primary program is voluntary. It's open to all children who are at least four years of age by December 31. Children can only attend the Pre-Primary program for one year.

## Registration:

Information on how to pre-register for the program is available at [www.ednet.ns.ca/pre-primary](http://www.ednet.ns.ca/pre-primary). You may also download, fill out and mail in the pre-registration form to the Department or, pre-register by calling toll-free 1-833-424-2084.

## Hours and Days of Operation:

Pre-primary will be offered during standard school hours. It will be closed during all school in-service days, storm days, professional development days, holidays and the summer months. Please check with your school board about class cancellations or closures.

## Transportation:

Parents will be responsible for getting their children to and from pre-primary, the same as they would for other child care services.

## Meals:

The program will provide children with a morning snack when they arrive and an afternoon snack. Snacks will follow the Standards for Food and Nutrition in Regulated child care and will emphasize foods such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains and healthy protein sources. Parents will be required to send a lunch with their child.

## Staffing:

The program will be staffed by Early Childhood Educators. There will be one educator for every 10 children in the classroom, where there is a class of 20 children. Where there are more than 20 children (maximum 24), there will be 3 staff.

## Supplies:

The pre-primary program will provide all supplies, materials and resources as part of the program.

## Inclusive Environment:

The Pre-Primary Program is an inclusive program. Children with special needs will continue to have access to services and supports they would have if they were at home or in a community based program, while they are in Pre-Primary.

## Curriculum:

For the first time in the history of the province, we have a world class early learning curriculum framework that will guide the programming in the pre-primary program. The curriculum recognizes that children learn best through play, and helps educators to create responsive learning environments for children.