

Information Letter for Parents/ Guardians
Re: Occupational Therapy Service in the Classroom

Hello Parents/ Guardians:

This letter is to inform you of a new service within your child's school during the 2021-2022 school year. One Kids Place and the Near North School Board, ET Carmichael Public School have partnered to provide a unique opportunity for your child and their class to engage with services that will enhance their overall learning and participation in the school environment.

Occupational Therapists (OTs) are regulated health professionals who work with children in many different settings. OTs have knowledge about motor skills development and sensory processing, and how these can impact on functional classroom participation.

The OT will spend time in the classrooms and other school environments, and will support teachers and school staff to try out different materials, tools and instructional methods that can make it easier for children to learn and do motor based activities and participate in school activities and routines. At times, a occupational therapy assistant may run activities in the classroom under the supervision of the OT. Examples of materials or tools that may be tried with some students include different types of pencil grips, scissors, or active seating (e.g. movement cushion). Teachers may share ideas with you that they are using in the classroom to help your child.

If through this program your child appears to need more individualized help with their motor skills, self-care or sensory processing, the teacher will ask your permission to complete a referral to One Kids Place for OT services. Next, you will be contacted by One Kids Place to discuss the OT service and ensure your consent for services. If your child is already receiving OT services or is on the waitlist, the OT will discuss with you if there are any changes to the plan for your child's services.

If you have any concerns about your child in the above areas, please let your child's teacher know. If you have questions or do not want to participate in this service, please talk to your child's school principal.



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