

August 30, 2021

Dear School Board Partner,

We are excited to continue our work together this year, as outlined in our *Memorandum of Understanding for ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment and Development to provide School Based Rehabilitation Services (SBRS)* in schools. We are writing to provide some updates, as we embark on a new school year. Please note that ErinoakKids is implementing a mandatory vaccination policy for all our staff to protect them and the students/clients we care for against COVID-19 to the greatest extent possible. Our requirement is that ErinoakKids SBRS therapists will be fully vaccinated. Staff with documented vaccine exemptions for medical or religious reasons will undergo rapid antigen testing daily prior to going into schools.

What stays the same:

- SBRS will continue to provide occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech therapy in all publicly funded schools.
- The mandate for SBRS speech therapy is unchanged and includes articulation, motor speech, fluency and voice challenges.
- Speech therapy and physiotherapy will continue to be provided using the same model that schools are familiar with.
- Each school will be assigned one physiotherapist, occupational therapist, and speech therapist team with a key contact to address questions.
- Supervised therapy assistants will be involved in providing direct treatment for students, in order to help us support more students.
- Occupational therapy will be provided through a tiered model of service. This means there will be an occupational therapist (OT) assigned to your school who visits on a regular scheduled basis. The OT will be available to support classroom teachers in developing classroom strategies to support building fine motor skills, activities of daily living and sensory regulation. Individual and group sessions will continue to be available for identified students within this model.

What is new:

- ErinoakKids has a new online referral form for SBRS that can be found on our website at www.erinoakkids.ca/referrals. We also have a new section on our website that has additional information that may be helpful www.erinoakkids.ca/SBRS-Educators
- School board partners will no longer need to register for encrypted email, as ErinoakKids' clinicians will use OneDrive to securely share confidential documents with personal health information (PHI). Regular email will be used for non-PHI communication (e.g., scheduling of school visits, sharing of generic handouts).

We are looking forward to collaborating with school teams to support students in reaching their full potential!

Sincerely,
School Based Rehabilitation Services Team
ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment and Development