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School-Based Rehabilitation Services

Enabling Participation, Socialization and Learning

Information for Families in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties

The current children's rehabilitation service landscape in Ontario is complex, and involves multiple sectors and service providers. In response to feedback received directly from families, the provincial government is making changes to improve the delivery of school-based rehabilitation services (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology) for children and youth from birth to school exit. These changes will support a more seamless service experience. A goal is that children who are currently receiving services before school entry will not experience gaps or be placed on additional wait lists when they start school.

A key step is the transfer of contract management for the delivery of school-based rehabilitation services in publicly-funded schools from the Local Health Integration Networks (LHIN) to Children's Treatment Centres (CTCs) in Ontario. Effective January 1, 2019, the Quinte Children's Treatment Centre (QCTC) will manage the School-Based Rehabilitation Services (SBRS) working with Quinte and District Rehabilitation (Quinte Rehab) in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties.

QCTC has been working closely together with the South East Local Health Integration Network (SELHIN), all District School Boards and Quinte Rehab to do everything we can to ensure students will not experience gaps or disruptions during the 2018-19 school year as a result of this transfer.

In our region, School-Based Rehabilitation Services will continue to be provided by Quinte Rehab. This contract is in place until December 31, 2019. Children and youth and their families will continue to receive these services through Quinte Rehab for this time period.

Naturally, you may have some questions around next steps and resources available for your child and family. We will continue to keep you informed as we work together to implement improvements to family-centered and integrated services in Ontario. Below are answers to some Frequently Asked Questions that we will update regularly based on your questions and feedback.

Should you have questions that are not answered below, we encourage you to contact Amy Quilty, QCTC Coordinator of School-Based Rehabilitation Services at 613-969-7400 ext. 2387 or aquilty@qhc.on.ca.

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

What are School-Based Rehabilitation Services?

School-Based Rehabilitation Services include Occupational therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech- Language Pathology for speech needs provided to school-aged children in their publicly-funded school.

What happened to School Health Support Services?

School Health Support Services was the name of the program provided through the LHIN. The SELHIN will continue to provide nursing, dietician and personal support to publicly-funded schools as directed through legislation, as well as therapy services to private schools and children who are home-schooled. School-Based Rehabilitation Services include Occupational therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech-Language Pathology for speech needs for school-aged children in publicly-funded schools.

What has changed?

In addition to the name change of the program, QCTC will now manage the contract that is in place until December 31, 2019. QCTC will work with Quinte Rehab who will continue to provide School-Based Rehabilitation Services to school-aged children in their schools.

Children Currently Receiving School-Based Rehabilitation Services:

Services will continue without any interruption. Over the past number of months, QCTC has been working closely with the SELHIN and Quinte Rehab to support a smooth transition, and to ensure continuity of service for children and families. Your child's established service plan will remain unchanged.

Children Waiting for School-Based Rehabilitation Services:

Families currently waiting for services will maintain their place on the waitlist and children will continue to be seen on a priority-basis.

Where will my child's services be provided?

Your child will continue to receive School-Based Rehabilitation Services such as Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy or Speech-Language Pathology in their school, based on the current plan for your child.

Will my child's therapist change?

There will be no changes to service providers for children receiving services in publicly-funded schools. In Hastings and Prince Edward Counties, School-Based Rehabilitation Services will still be provided by Quinte Rehab on behalf of QCTC. QCTC oversees the existing contract in place until December 31, 2019.

What prompted this change?

In response to feedback received from families, the government is making changes to improve the delivery of school-based rehabilitation services (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology) for children and youth from birth to school exit. These changes 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.

How do I refer my child for School-Based Rehabilitation Services?

All new referrals for School-Based Rehabilitation Services will be done by the child's home school through QCTC's Intake team. Please talk to your child's teacher or principal about referrals for School-Based Rehabilitation Services.

My child is already a QCTC client. What does this mean for me?

Your team at QCTC will remain unchanged and will continue to work closely with Quinte Rehab therapists in order to maintain coordinated care for your child.

Stay in Contact

Please reach out to us if you have any questions regarding School-Based Rehabilitation Services for your child. We will continue to keep you informed as we work together to implement improvements to family-centered and integrated services in Ontario.

Amy Quilty, QCTC Coordinator of the School-Based Rehabilitation Services at 613-969-7400 Ext. 2387 or aquilty@qhc.on.ca.

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