

Hello Families,

The City of Toronto will begin to offer After-school Recreation Care program (ARC) at Calico PS for the 2020-2021 school year, following the provincial government's guidance for day cares and in consultation with Toronto Public Health and the school boards.

City of Toronto – Parks, Forestry, and Recreation operates innovative, quality and safe after- school care in a recreation setting for children ages 6 to 12 years old. The program is designed to enhance life skills by promoting physical activity, health and wellness, and nutrition in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

ARC will feature additional staff for smaller leader to participant ratios to help maintain physical distancing and ensure safe supervision of participants. After-school Recreation Care (ARC) is designed for maximum fun and safety for participants 6 - 12 years of age.

#### **Registration Dates**

Registration for ARC is NOW OPEN (Register ASAP to avoid disappointment)

A program will need to have a minimum of 12 participants registered in a program to operate. After registration, the City will review, and contact families if the program is not operating.

# **How to Register**

The quickest and easiest way to register is online at <u>efun.toronto.ca</u>. Phone registration will also be available at 416-396-7378. As Civic Centres remain closed, in-person registration will not be available.

Residents can call 416-396-7378 Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for help preparing for registration.

Please see flyer attached which include the barcodes for registration.

#### Free Programs & Subsidies

The City of Toronto's <u>Welcome Policy</u> offers a financial subsidy for people with low incomes.

<u>How to Register for Recreation Programs</u> After-school Recreation Care



## Safety

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, ARC and CLASP programs will meet health guidelines designed in consultation with Toronto Public Health and in alignment with provincial health guidelines for day care centres.

Participant's safety is the highest priority. ARC and CLASP programs offer an enhanced ratio of staff to participants. There will now be two dedicated staff with every fifteen children per room. In smaller rooms, a one staff to seven children ratio will be maintained. Each group will stay together for the entire program session, and not interact with other participants.

Programs offered at schools will only be allowed to accept children from that school, walking programs and bussing from other schools will not be permitted.

Programs offered at community centre locations will be walking children to program locations from schools, but will need to limit the number of children due to physical distancing so staff can ensure the safety of all children/participants. Busses may be accepted at selection community centre locations but will be up to the caregiver to arrange drop off with the bus company.

Participants of all ages will be asked to wear a mask while at after-school programs. Please ensure that your child packs one or two extra masks. If a child forgets their mask parents will be called to pick the child up.

Each participants will be asked to agree to a code of conduct while at program, including physical distancing, respiratory etiquette and frequent handwashing.

Cleaning of rooms will occur more frequently with special attention to high touch surfaces like door handles and counters. Shared spaces and common areas like gyms and washrooms will be cleaned every three hours.

For safety reasons, caregivers must give up-to-date phone numbers and emergency contacts.

ARC staff will not be able to escort participants enrolled in ARC/CLASP at a Community Centre to other programs within the facility during the ARC program time. If you would like your child to attend other community centre programs during ARC time, they must be signed out and taken to the program by the parent/guardian.



## **Illness at After School Programs**

If a participant has any symptoms of COVID-19, the parent will be called to pick up their child within one hour, have them tested for COVID-19, and may return to the program once a negative test result is shown. In the case of a positive test, the participant must stay home for 14 days and must be symptom free for 24 hours.

## **Programming**

ARC and CLASP programs will look different this year, but fun is still the goal! Staff have been hard at work adapting games and activities to maintain physical distance between participants. Each participant will have their own supplies for all activities to eliminate sharing of supplies and equipment.

Please dress your child appropriate to the weather as there will be more outdoor play at the after-school programs this school year.

Snack will be pre-packaged single serving snacks served starting the second week of program.

#### **Inclusion Services**

Children and youth with special needs/exceptionalities can participate in After-School Recreation Care program based on ability and facility access. Please register at the desired location and contact staff at 416-338-1351.

After School Recreation General Inquiry Line City of Toronto Phone: 416-338-2512

ARC@toronto.ca