



# HOPEDALE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

*Operated Under Ontario Limited 1318291*

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**Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

Dear Parents,

As many of us have heard and seen the Province of Ontario's statement this afternoon on plans for the re-opening of schools and childcare facilities, we felt it necessary to reach out and provide some information on our plans for eventually re-opening Hopedale Montessori School.

Given the fact that Covid-19 continues to provide a unique set of challenges to our community, it is understandable that the province's statement is also not clear cut. While the province has stated that they will look at opening childcare facilities in the second phase of re-opening, it is clear that many of the issues surrounding the health and well-being of our children, our staff and broader parent community have not yet been addressed.

While the province has stated that they hope for a 'Phase 2 Opening' of childcare facilities, they have also stated that lots of notice will be provided to childcare operators and they intend on providing a more concrete framework as we get closer to this date.

It is of the utmost concern for us to ensure that our opening provides our community with the safest possible environment, and we are currently working through different ideas on how to promote social distancing amongst children between the ages of 18 months and 6 years. As you can imagine this is not only a difficult task, but it is also something that will continuously evolve as we learn more about the re-opening of other industries, and understand the challenges that a second wave of this virus could potentially create.

As we have been informed by parents, many children that are currently registered for the month of June, and summer program, no longer require care. Given this, and the fact that we do not have clear direction from the government on a plan for re-opening, we would like to formally notify you that we do not intend on re-opening until at least July this year.

When the Ministry of Education, Halton Region and the Province of Ontario release their framework for re-opening childcare, it is at that time, that we will assess the framework, and our ability to address the health and safety requirements. It is only then that we will look at re-enrolment possibilities for summer program and beyond.

We thank you all for your continued support and understanding during this difficult time.