

### **Early Learning Program Application for 2018-2019 School Year**

On February 1, 2018 the Medicine Hat Public School Division will begin accepting applications for the Early Learning Program wait list. The Early Learning Program is designed to support children who may benefit from early intervention. Children with a severe disability/delay must be 3 by December 31, 2018. **(This is an update in order to meet the change in the School Act regarding the entrance age for school which comes into effect for the 2020/2021 school year.)** Children with a mild/moderate delay must be 4 by February 29, 2019. Within this framework we have also reserved 5 unfunded spaces in the morning and 5 unfunded spaces in the afternoon for children who are 3 to 4 years of age who may qualify as partners in play. Partners in play spaces are for children who reflect typical development. Kindergarten children who qualify to attend ELP in a school that offers an alternating day Kindergarten program will attend ELP on the opposite days from Kindergarten. All other children will attend a half day program only.

#### Placement Priority:

1. Children with assessed developmental delays who qualify based on Alberta Education criteria.
2. Children within school boundaries who may qualify as a partner in play (4 years olds will be given priority)

#### ***Update for the 2018/2019 School Year:***

*Kindergarten children attending the Early Learning Program must also qualify for Program Unit Funding.*

**March 29, 2018** - MHPSD will notify you, by this date, through the **email** address you have provided regarding placement status. Parents must reply through **email** to **confirm** acceptance of offered placement. If we are unable to offer you a placement by March 29, 2018 your child's name will remain on a waiting list and we will contact you when a space becomes available.

Fees for children who are accessing an unfunded space are \$200.00 per month and post-dated cheques are required upon confirmation of placement. Please note, this is an educational program therefore it is not eligible for subsidy or a childcare deduction on your income tax.

Thanks for your interest in the Early Learning Program!

Sincerely,

Stacey Miner  
Early Learning Coordinator  
[stacey.miner@sd76.ab.ca](mailto:stacey.miner@sd76.ab.ca)

Joanne Stockman  
Early Learning Coordinator  
[joanne.stockman@sd76.ab.ca](mailto:joanne.stockman@sd76.ab.ca)