

# Welcome to our Virtual Open House!



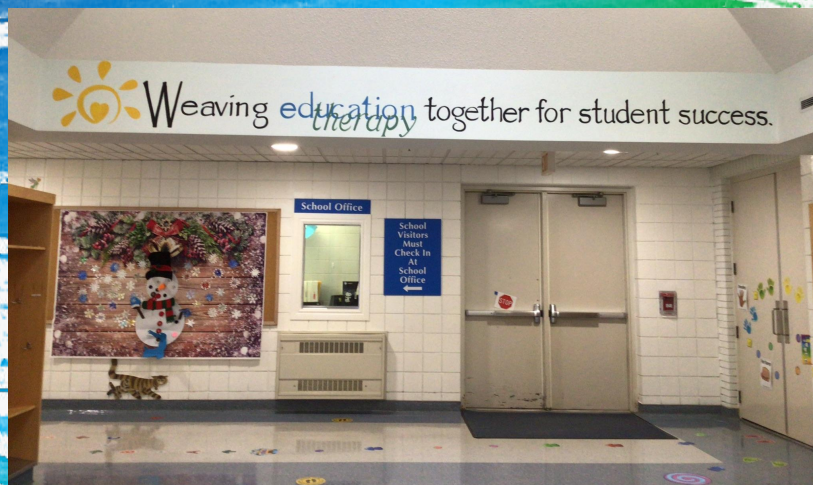
# AGENDA

- Who We Are
- School Programs
- A Typical Day at Our School
- Admissions Process
- Q&A





# ABOUT US

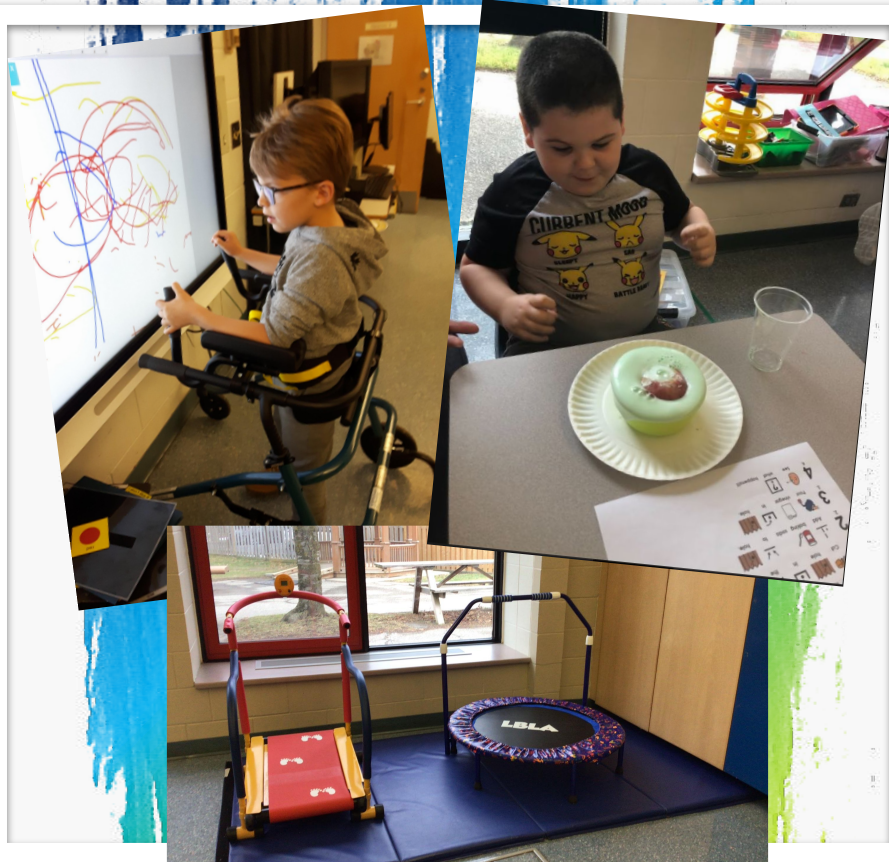


*“School Authorities are created pursuant to Section 68 of the Education Act of Ontario, with all the duties, powers and responsibilities of District School Boards, housed in Children’s Treatment Centres and providing education programs and services for children and young adults who have physical and/or communication disabilities and related developmental issues.”*

# FULL-DAY LEARNING PROGRAMS



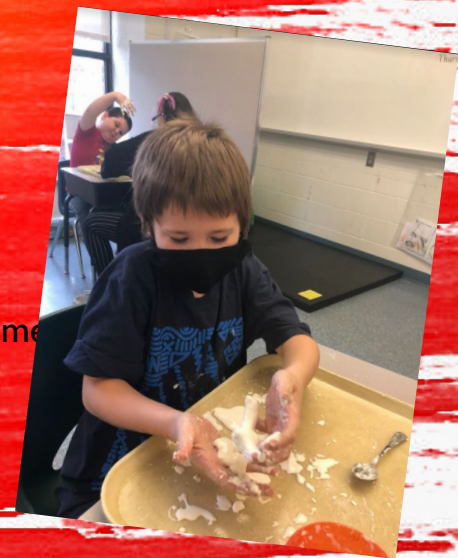




- At the Niagara Children's Centre School we offer Full-Day Learning Programs called Niagara Student Success Programs (NSSP)
- Students are aged 4-21 years of age with a range of complex physical, communicative and/or developmental disabilities requiring the support of at least 2 active therapies to participate to their fullest potential in educational programming

# Our School

- Our School is currently comprised of 7 classrooms
- Each has a Teacher and 2 educational assistants per class who provide shared support to students
- Therapists provide consultative support classroom teams based on individual assessment needs
- Outside agencies provide other supports, such as nursing services, as required





# PROGRAM GOALS

- Programming is based on Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum/program documents
- Classroom and Therapy teams collaborate with families around Individual Education Plan (IEP) goals for the classroom and Care Plan goals for home, school and community



# A TYPICAL DAY AT OUR SCHOOL INCLUDES...

- Choice Activities and Structured Play Opportunities
  - Structured Whole-Group Lessons
  - Small-group activities and lessons
    - Snack and Personal Care
  - Daily Physical Activity - Indoors and out
    - Lunch and Outdoor Play
- Structured activities with Specialized Rotary Teachers
  - Integrated therapy opportunities



# Communication Between Parents and Our School Team

- New Student Open House
- Weekly updates via Google Classroom and Remind apps
- Initial IEP Meeting and Parent Teacher Interviews (September and February)
- School Council Meetings (4/year)
- IEP Development
- Communication of Learning Reports (November, February and June)
- Informal Parent / Teacher / Therapist Discussions
- Student Support Team Meetings
- Parent engagement special events and activities
- Transition and community School Meetings



# TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is provided for all students accepted to the Niagara Children's Centre School. Please note that depending on your proximity to the school, the bus ride may be longer (up to 1.5 hours).







# SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT

Teachers and therapists work together, and with families to determine appropriate equipment that allows your child to access curriculum.

Therapy services for children within the school are provided by the Niagara Children's Centre and funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.



Therapy in the Centre School is very different from out-patient services your child may have previously had where it was individualized one-to-one therapy. *The therapy model at school is primarily a collaborative consultative model with some modeling/coaching to education staff on specific therapeutic strategies.*

# Therapy Service Delivery

Therapists working within the school focus on helping to improve performance and participation in the school environment.





# TRANSITIONS

Students may attend our school for 1-2 years depending on their goals, and transition planning is part of the process right from the very beginning.

Transition Planning is supported by the Special Education Consultant, in collaboration with families, our school and therapy teams and the local district school boards and community agencies.

# ADMISSION CRITERIA

## Program Eligibility:

1. Children entering our school are between the ages of 4 (by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023) and 21.
2. Children must reside in the Regional Municipality of Niagara.
3. The child must require a multidisciplinary team approach for academics and therapy.
4. Children must have complex needs and meet the criteria for active intervention (moderate to severe delays) in **two** or more of the following therapy areas\*:
  - Physiotherapy
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Speech Language Pathology
  - Augmentative/Alternative Communication

## The potential student:

- Has the ability to tolerate a full-day in a classroom setting
- Can attend to a range of activities for a short period of time
- Can participate in a shared support environment (without 1:1 support for a significant portion of time)



# ADMISSION PROCESS

## Applications include two steps:

**STEP 1 - Accepted until Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** Complete and submit a referral package, including the Consent to share information and all requested documentation. Completed packages should be sent to [admissions@nccsa.ca](mailto:admissions@nccsa.ca) or dropped in the secure School mailbox located at the Niagara Children's Centre School, 567 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines, ON L2T 4C2.

**STEP 2 - Accepted until Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.** Create a two to three minute video highlighting the child's skills. Further information regarding how to upload the video will be provided once we receive the application, and consent to share information forms.

The consent to exchange information form, application form, and video should be emailed to [admissions@nccsa.ca](mailto:admissions@nccsa.ca) .

Video should include:

- Your child's communication - how do they communicate? Speech, AAC, gestures/body language?
- Your child's mobility - how do they move about? Is there any special equipment that supports this?
- Play skills - Does your child interact with others? Use toys or materials appropriately?
- What are their interests?

# VIDEO SUBMISSIONS

Videos only need to be 2-3 minutes in length. We are just looking for a glimpse into your child's skills, needs, and personality!



# ADMISSIONS PROCESS TIMELINE 2023

**FEB./  
MARCH**

Complete Referral Package and Video with support from your therapy team, school team and/or community supports. Packages can be obtained through the school website, your child's therapy team or home school.

**MARCH**

Referral packages due **March 10th, 2023.**

Videos due **March 24th, 2023.**

**APRIL**

The Admissions Committee will determine which candidates are appropriate for our available program spaces, and communicate admissions decisions via email.

**MAY**

Transition plans and meetings will occur based on individual student needs.

**JUNE**

Open House / School Visits for incoming students.

# Q&A

If you have any questions about the process, or wish to discuss a specific referral, please contact:

**Jennifer Gibbs**  
Special Education Consultant  
(905)688-1890 ext. 232  
[jennifer.gibbs@nccsa.ca](mailto:jennifer.gibbs@nccsa.ca)





# THANK YOU!