



September 13, 2018

Dear Parents,

Our goal is to ensure we are doing our best by the children entrusted into our care. In response to increased public service announcements (PSA) regarding children being left in cars, YCD will be implementing new protocol regarding the safe arrival of children.

Forgotten Baby Syndrome (FBS) refers to accidentally leaving a baby or young child in a locked car, often with tragic results. One of the prevention strategies, identified in research, is to ensure that child care programs have a system in place to connect with parents should a child not arrive in care when expected.

The York Region School Boards have a safe arrival program in place that ensure kindergarten and school aged children arrive in the morning. No such system is in place for the younger children who are at greatest risk for being left in vehicles. We will be implementing a safe arrival program much like that of the school system.

Beginning September 17th, we will be contacting parents:

- of kindergarten and school aged children, in the morning, on non-instructional days only. We will continue to contact parents should their children not arrive in their assigned after school program
- of toddler and preschool children each morning should their child not arrive.

The safety and wellbeing of your children are a high priority. We are asking that parents call the centre in the event that their child will be absent.

If you would like additional information regarding FBS, please visit <https://www.kidsandcars.org/> or <https://www.consumerreports.org/car-safety/anyone-could-forget-kids-in-hot-car-forgotten-baby-syndrome/>

With thanks,

YCD Educators