

# PARENTS/PUBLIC

## Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD)

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Policy 901: Space Allocation for Designated Early Learning and Child Care Facilities**

**Q1. Why create a policy for the allocation of spaces in designated early learning and child care facilities?**

A. The new space allocation policy will improve equitable access to early learning and child care for families across the province by targeting communities with the greatest need, to better support parents participating in our workforce.

**Q2. Why is there a focus on infant spaces in the Policy?**

A. Following numerous engagement sessions with parents and stakeholders, a shortage of infant spaces for children less than two years old was identified as an urgent need across the province. New Brunswick has committed to prioritizing space creation for infants to support new parents in their capacity to return to work.

**Q3. Where can I find a list of available childcare spaces in my community? Are there currently any vacant designated spaces?**

A. A list of available childcare services in New Brunswick communities can be found on the [Parent Portal](https://www.nbed.nb.ca/parentportal/en/) at <https://www.nbed.nb.ca/parentportal/en/>.

**Q4. Government knows there is a need for preschool spaces. Why is there a delay in approving their creation?**

A. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development is currently processing several requests for new preschool spaces that were received before the May 10 moratorium began. It is anticipated that a few hundred new spaces will open by the end of March 2023.

**Q5. Where can I find more information?**

A. Parents may call the toll-free number 1-833-221-9339 or send their questions to [EECDPortal-PortailEDPE@gnb.ca](mailto:EECDPortal-PortailEDPE@gnb.ca).