

Don Valley Christian Child Care Program Statement

(a) Promote the health, safety, nutrition and well-being of children

The Centre will promote children's overall health and well-being on a daily basis.

Staff will interact with children in ways that encourage positive self-esteem, responsibility, independence & a sense of security and happiness. DVCCC ensures that children receive nutritious meals/snacks that take into account health issues & respect family requests/preferences. All meals, snacks & beverages will meet the recommendations set out in the Health Canada document, "Canada's Food Guide." Staff will perform daily observations of children at morning drop-off in order to detect possible symptoms of ill health.

(b) Support positive and responsive interactions among the children, parents, child care providers and staff

Promote positive, respectful and meaningful interactions amongst all those involved in the child care centre

Staff's interactions will be respectful & sensitive to family culture, values, language, composition & developmental abilities. Our interactions will be modelled to reflect the value we place on inclusion. The centre will aim to foster each child's self-esteem, curiosity, exploration, play, inquiry and ability to function harmoniously within the group.

(c) Encourage the children to interact & communicate in a positive way & support their ability to self-regulate

Support the children in the development of their ability to communicate with others & develop long lasting strategies for self control

Staff will view all children as being competent, capable, curious and rich in potential. Staff will help children respect the basic rights of others and build on their social skills and with helping in recognizing, regulating and expressing emotions.

(d) Foster the children's exploration, play and inquiry

The Centre will foster children's exploration, play & inquiry daily within all their learning environments.

Children will be encouraged to explore, play & ask questions. Children will be provided with an environment that encourages their exploration & inquiry. Children will engage in enjoyable, spontaneous, active play which will enhance their learning. Children will have a variety of opportunities to explore their world through play. When this natural activity is supported at our centre, the child's competence & capacity to be more self regulated is optimized.

(e) Provide child-initiated and adult-supported experiences

The Centre will provide the children with experiences that are reflective of both the children and adults' interests and choices

The staff will document their daily observations of the children & plan for play based learning opportunities which support the children's development of capacities/ skills while respecting their interests & choices. Staff will use observations to determine interests and plan learning opportunities in all developmental areas which is continuous & available to families. This is an approach that celebrates new ideas & supports the spontaneity of the developing child. Our staff expand the children's interests by adding materials, asking questions & scaffolding the children's learning by providing new challenges and ideas.

(f) Plan for and create positive learning environments and experiences in which each child's learning and development will be supported

The centre will provide an environment in which learning is a rewarding and enjoyable experience, and where each child can develop to their potential at an individual pace

The children's learning environment will be reflective of the children within it. It will be set up to ensure that children are provided with an environment that is safe, fun and encourages children's individual development. The daily schedule permits a wide variety of activities to address these opportunities for every child so that he/she will feel confident in exploring the learning environment.

(g) Incorporate indoor and outdoor play, as well as active play, rest and quiet time into the day and give consideration to the individual needs of the children receiving child care

Children will be provided with a learning environment that incorporates indoor and outdoor play. As well as opportunities for active play, rest and quiet daily to ensure that the individual needs of each child is being met

Children will be provided with learning experiences that encourages them to explore different development domains and will be made available to them at all times of the day. Programming will support children's self-care skills and growing independence to promote a sense of competence be creative natural transition periods between activities and to allow for easy accessibility to the learning centres. Through creative space development, we ensure that the environment provides comfort and meets children's needs related to rest, play and nutrition.

(h) Foster the engagement of the ongoing communication with parents about the program and their children

Ongoing and open communication with families will be a priority of the centre

Family involvement is welcomed as we believe that strong partnerships with families strengthen the children's opportunities for learning and development. We value the importance of fostering the engagement of ongoing communication with families about the program and their children. This will be achieved through daily reports, newsletters, Parent Post, family nights, annual holiday concerts.

(i) Involve local community partners and allow those partners to support the children, their families and the staff

Promote the involvement of the local community to further develop and support the learning of the children, families and staff

Local community specialists will be brought into the centre to offer programming which enhances learning in a variety of areas such as dance, art, music. Parents nights will consist of visits from professionals in the local community ie. hygienists and nutritionists, and ongoing resources will be available to parents.

(j) Support staff, home child care providers and others who interact with the children at a child care centre or home child care premises in relation to continuous professional learning

The centre will provide and encourage professional development opportunities to all the staff

Professional development opportunities will be presented to the staff on an ongoing basis. Staff will be given opportunities to participate in individual as well as group workshops. Staff are required to attend a minimum of one professional development workshop per year.

(k) Document and review the impact of the strategies set out in clauses (a) to (j) on the children and their families

Documentation to be used as a pillar of the learning process of children, families and staff

A variety of different types of documentation will be used to ensure that the goals of the centre are reflective of the learning process of the children, staff and the parents. Continuous communication opportunities will be offered to review and reflect the impact of the goals of the centre. Feedback will be collected via surveys, documentation and centre meetings