

## OUR PROGRAM STATEMENT

North Lambton Childcare Centre believes that all our children are capable and competent, curious and rich in potential.

Our environments are safe, flexible and engaging for the children. The well-being of the children is vital to everything we do. Children will work and play in an environment that is clean and safe. Children will be provided with healthy meals and snacks in accordance with the Canada's Food Guide and there will be access to drinking water at all times throughout the day. Healthy eating will be role modelled by the Educators.

Every child shall feel that he or she belongs, and as Educators, we will capitalize on each child's strengths for the opportunity to succeed. Children need educators to support and encourage them as they learn to build trust in their world. Our curriculum promotes healthy child development by emphasizing responsive relationships, stimulating environments and learning through play.

Our Educators encourage each child's developing sense of self and their ability to self regulate. Children are encouraged and supported to express their emotions and feelings in socially acceptable ways. Children are capable communicators; able to manage their emotions and behaviours. Educators will foster positive relationships with the children. Using positive approaches to guide children, they will learn the tools they need to help them problem solve and communicate effectively.

Creating engaging environments for children to explore, will ensure that the children are active participants in their own learning. Purposeful, play-based learning enables children to investigate, ask questions, solve problems and engage in critical thinking. Educators are responsible for introducing new ideas, concepts and experiences to help the children make meaning to their world.

Our flexible schedule will allow children the opportunity to have long periods of uninterrupted play, both indoors and outdoors. Children will be offered period of sleep or rest and have opportunities for quiet activities as needed. A balance of child-initiated and adult-supported experiences will be provided. Our teaching with the children involve observing; listening and responding; redirecting and guiding children's actions, reactions, interests, talk and questions.

Learning happens throughout the day and having an adaptive schedule is responsive to the needs of each child. Our environments and experiences are designed for children to explore their ideas, investigate their theories and interact with each other in play. Our Educators will learn alongside our children. Children, being naturally motivated to learn, become self-motivated learners when they are provided with enriched environments, have nurturing adult interactions, and are supported with the freedom to explore.

We value that parents are their child's primary caregiver and we are committed to a mutually respectful relationship with all families. We will work together to expand on the investigations and the learning that is happening in program and at home. Regular engagement with parents happen. Opportunities include using various types of documentation to make the child's learning visible, along with newsletters, family events and daily communication to meet the different needs of our families. Parents and families are always welcome in our programs.

We will continue to actively involve other community partnerships to strengthen our abilities and to meet the needs of our children and families. Using the knowledge of local experts, children will foster a sense of belonging by learning more about the world around them.

Our Educators and program staff strive to provide the best experiences for children. We understand that being focused on the four foundations: belonging, well-being, engagement and expression ensures optimal learning and healthy development. Our Educators are lifelong learners and use the resource, "*How Does Learning Happen?*" to guide their work. Through professional learning opportunities, NLCC will continue to support all of our Educators in the delivery of high-quality experiences and care for our children and families.

The Program Statement is reviewed by all staff, educators, students and volunteers annually with a mechanism in place to review the effectiveness of each of these approaches with each Educator and program support staff.