

MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of the ELM Children's Centre as a childcare provider is to enlighten, encourage, and educate its students. We offer innovative and interactive learning opportunities that challenge and stimulate the children in a secure, respectful environment with professional, qualified and nurturing staff. Working together as a team ensures the fulfillment of the goal. Children are our only resource that will always increase in value!

INCLUSION

ELM Children's Centre Inc. works together with specialized services such as All Kids Belong, Thames Valley Children's Centre and Vanier Children's Services to support the individual needs of children and their families. Quality developmentally appropriate child care is also inclusive care. When children's needs are being met according to their developmental levels, they do not stand out as having 'special needs'. All children have needs and we ensure that strategies are implemented to effectively support each child in this respect. In the case of these children there will be a meeting held with the supports involved for a support plan to be set up to help the child achieve success in the program. If necessary, support hours through AKB may be needed.

PHILOSOPHY

The ELM Children's Centre Inc. provides a positive, inclusive, learning environment where all children can enhance their level of development through experiences under the guidance of specially trained staff using the How Does Learning Happen philosophy. Every child is unique and they are made to feel valued and welcome. Every child is viewed as competent, capable, curious and rich in potential. This will be attained by the following:

GOALS AND APPROACHES

- We will promote the health, safety, nutrition, and well-being of each child by; maintaining the cleanliness inside of the daycare; completing daily playground inspections, with an annual one completed by an inspector; ensuring our daycare licensing is completed annually and health inspections are completed three times a year; ensuring our menus follow Canada's Food Guide; and most importantly, ensuring that the children are supervised at all times.
- We will support positive and responsive interactions among the children, parents, childcare providers and staff by; being present and mindful when interacting with anyone within the daycare; by holding regular staff meetings, mandatory parent meetings and board meetings; by promoting respectful interactions among peers as well as daycare staff; and by utilizing the SeeSaw application to further the communication between parents and the daycare.
- We will encourage the children to interact and communicate in a positive way and support their

ability to self-regulate by observing their self-calming skills and referencing the Think, Feel, Act document when needed

- We will foster the children's exploration play and inquiry by setting up Provocation and Invitation areas based on their interests as well as providing physical space that encourages exploration
- We will provide child initiated and adult supported experiences by asking ourselves, “What do they know? “What do they want to know?” How can we support and provide that learning with genuine experiences?”. We will ensure that our classrooms are set up based on the four foundations of learning, which are, Belonging, Engagement, Expression, and Well-Being. Our goal is to promote respect, imagination and creativity through programs that allow them to celebrate their individuality and embrace their commonalities.
- We will plan for and create positive learning environments and experiences in which each child's learning and development will be supported by setting up our environment as a third teacher, which will support and provoke the children into deeper levels of thinking and understanding. Staff will watch and document how the children manipulate their environment.
- We will 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 care by providing indoor and outdoor areas for exploration and learning opportunities to encourage respect and awe for nature and ensuring the children have appropriate rest or quiet time as required.
- We will foster the engagement of and ongoing communication with parents about the program and their children by sharing what is going on in the centre through newsletters and the See Saw application as well as through documentation.
- We will involve local community partners, such as AKB, Thames Valley Children's Centre, and Vanier Children's Services, and allow those partners to support the children, their families and staff by having team meetings with parents, staff and supports to develop an appropriate plan for the child to achieve success in the program.
- We will support staff, or others who interact with the children at our child care centre in relation to continuous professional learning by encouraging attendance at workshops and webinars, sharing of information at staff meetings, and providing coverage when necessary, for staff to attend workshops.
- We will document and review the impact of the strategies set out above, on the children and their families, by observation, parent feedback and evaluations of the staff and program. We will utilize the information from any parent or staff meetings, as well as feedback from outside supports to help us achieve our goals and be successful.

The Corporation philosophy, which provides criteria for parent participation, is the foundation of this organization. The basic structure and goals of the corporation creates the dynamics that allows for **excellence and a strong commitment** for parents to give of themselves for the benefit of all.

The program of the Centre is to provide a stimulating atmosphere for the child to learn through play. Provided for the child is equipment for creative and physical growth as well as social growth while

learning a degree of independence in their own way. We feel the children learn and grow best by being actively involved in their environment. The children use play to develop independence, curiosity, creativity, resourcefulness, responsibility, and self worth.