

THE PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF QUALITY CARE

The National Childcare Accreditations Council's principles are set out below. Centres must achieve "good quality" in the first 20 principles and basic or higher in the other 32 before they can receive accreditation.

1. Staff interactions with children are warm and friendly.
2. Staff treat all children equally and try to accommodate their individual needs: they respect diversity of background.
3. Staff treat all children equally and try to accommodate their individual needs: they treat both sexes without bias.
4. Staff use a positive approach in guidance and discipline.
5. Staff are responsive to children's feelings and needs.
6. Staff initiate and maintain communication with children, and their communication conveys respect.
7. Staff show respect for children's developing competence, and foster their self-esteem and independence.
8. Staff interact with children to stimulate their curiosity and thinking.
9. Staff create a pleasant atmosphere.
10. There is verbal and written communication with all families about the centre.
11. There is active exchange of information between parents and staff.
12. There is an orientation process for new children and parents.
13. Parents and other family members are encouraged to be involved in the program.
14. Staff communicate well with each other.
15. Staff show respect for other members of the team.
16. The program is planned to reflect the centre's philosophy and goals.
17. The program incorporates learning experiences appropriate for each child, as indicated by development records maintained by the centre.
18. The program gives children the opportunity to make choices and take on new challenges.
19. The program fosters personal and social development.
20. The program fosters fine and gross motor skill development.
21. The program fosters creative development and aesthetic awareness.
22. Toileting and nappy-changing procedures meet individual needs and are positive experiences.
23. Sleep time and dressing procedures meet individual needs for rest, comfort and self-help.
24. Mealtimes are pleasant occasions.
25. The program provides a wide range of individual and group experiences.
26. Procedures for routine activities are flexible and developmentally appropriate.
27. Transitions between activities are smooth.
28. The program fosters intellectual development
29. The program fosters language development.
30. There is a balance and developmentally appropriate programme.
31. The program provides for children with special needs.

THE PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF QUALITY CARE (Continued)

32. The program is regularly evaluated in the light of stated goals.
33. Staff are alert to the health and welfare of each child.
34. Staff try to ensure that children are clothed appropriately for indoor and outdoor play and sleep.
35. Food and drinks meet children's daily nutritional requirements and are culturally appropriate.
36. Mealtimes promote healthy nutritional habits.
37. Food is prepared and stored hygienically.
38. Staff adhere to hygiene principles which reduce the spread of infectious diseases.
39. Staff encourage children to follow simple rules of hygiene.
40. Potentially dangerous products are inaccessible to children.
41. Buildings and equipment are safe and hygiene.
42. The centre maintains a record of children's immunizations.
43. The centre has written policies on hygiene, medical, emergency and accident procedures.
44. Staff is familiar with medical, emergency and accident procedures.
45. Staff supervises children at all times.
46. Information on health and other related issues is readily available to all staff.
47. Staff and parents consult on the program and evaluate it together.
48. New staff is informed about the philosophy and goals of the centre.
49. The centre provides regular learning and training opportunities for staff.
50. The staff roster is arranged to provide continuity of care.
51. Information about the centre's management is readily available to staff and parents.