



## Kidsville Early Learning Center

### Program Statement

#### **Purpose:**

The intention of this Program Statement is to strengthen the quality of Kidsville Early Learning Center's program and experiences that lead to positive outcomes related to children's learning, development, health, and well-being.

#### **Program Statement**

Kidsville Early Learning Center welcomes you to a genuine play based educative experience for young children. As Owners/Operators, along with our dedicated childcare providers and educators, we view children as competent, capable, curious, and rich in potential.

Kidsville Early Learning Center is consistent with the Ministry of Education's policy by operating a program that constitutes high quality childcare, early years' programming and pedagogy that supports children's learning and development.

Our educators use '**How Does Learning Happen**' Ontario's pedagogy for the early learning years to guide their practice. 'How Does Learning happen' is a professional learning resource guide provided by The Ministry of Education. We also reference The Ontario Early Years Framework, The Think Feel Act: Lessons from research about young children and ELECT: Early Learning for Every Child Today.

#### **Our Mission**

Our mission to provide an environment rich in purpose and experience to inspire, motivate and empower children to reach their full learning potential is achievable through implementing the **four foundations of early learning: belonging, well-being, engagement, and expression.**

- **Belonging** refers to a sense of being connected to others, being valued, and forming relationships with others.
- **Well-being** addresses the importance of physical /mental health, self-care, sense of self and self- regulation.
- **Engagement** occurs when children are involved, focused and able to explore their environment with natural curiosity and exuberance. Through this type of play and inquiry, they develop skills such as problem solving, creative thinking and innovating. These are essential for learning and success.
- **Expression** or communication (to be heard, as well as to listen) may take many different forms. Through their bodies, words, and use of materials. Language-rich environments support growing communication skills, which are foundational for literacy.

**Goal:** To plan for and create positive learning environments and experiences in which each child's learning and development will be encouraged and supported.

**Approach:** The Early Learning Center environment is designed to develop a foundation for creative learning and a sense of independence. The diversity of the Kidsville ELC's materials, activities and experiences foster physical, intellectual, creative, social, and personal skills.



**Goal:** To support positive and responsive interactions among the children, parents, guardians, childcare providers, educators, and other staff members.

**Approach:** Child care providers and educators are aware of children's cues and respond appropriately and consistently. Comprehensive and respectful communication ensures positive relationships with all members of the Center community.

**Goal:** To promote the health, safety, and well-being of children.

**Approach:** Childcare providers and educators implement the policies and procedures related to health, safety and well-being of children, meeting and/or exceeding the requirements of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Environment, City of Burlington, and Region of Halton. All staff are required to be trained in Standard First Aid and level C CPR, which is redone every 3 years. Staff are also required to complete a Vulnerable Sector check before employment. Health and safety policies, as well as medication and illness policies are reviewed with staff, volunteers, and students upon employment. The Halton Health Department conducts quarterly health inspections to ensure Kidsville ELC is in compliance with all requirements.

**Goal:** To encourage the children to interact and communicate in a positive way and support their ability to self-regulate.

**Approach:** The Emergent classroom environment and the playground encourages social interaction for cooperative learning, peer teaching and emotional development. Children become aware of their feelings and the feelings of others. Throughout the day children are provided with opportunities to engage in communication with others. During this time staff are able to praise and encourage children when they are engaged with each other in an appropriate manner. Staff are role-models for positive communication. Staff will allow children to attempt various tasks on their own, step by step, and assist them when required. To support self-regulation staff will provide choices, when possible, respect children's decisions, encourage/provide time to children to complete any tasks, and offer assistance where appropriate.

**Goal:** To incorporate indoor/ 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.

**Approach:** The Program Schedule is designed to allow a sufficient amount of time to meet the physiological and development needs of the children. For indoor/outdoor play a variety of activities will be offered and implemented on a daily basis that covers all areas in the room playground/ and all areas of development.

**Goal:** To involve local community partners and allow partners to support children, their families, childcare providers, and educators.

**Approach:** Cooperatively work with community partners who include, but not limited to, Ministry of Education, Region of Halton, Halton Health, Halton Inclusion Resource Services, Child Development Resource Connection Halton, Speech Pathways. Erin Oaks and Quality First.

**Goal:** To support child care providers, educators and other staff who interact with the children at the Center in relation to professional learning.

**Approach:** Professional education is offered to improve skills and knowledge to directly benefit



children and peers. All staff take part in continuous Professional Development and self-studies through “Quality First”, The Halton Resource Connection, The College of Early Childhood Educators and Halton Region Workshops. It is mandatory for all educators to participate in 2 workshops per year. In addition, the center may have group trainings to learn more about a variety of topics.

**Goal:** To foster the children’s exploration, play and inquiry.

**Approach:** Learning through play takes place when children explore their social and physical environment. Educators build upon the children’s interests by providing materials for exploration and by scaffolding, documentation, and reflection. They assist children in seeking answers to their questions. Freedom of choice entails some responsibility while allowing a child’s natural aptitudes to be satisfied.

**Goal:** To foster the engagement of and ongoing communication with the parents about the program and their children

**Approach:** Parents are an important part of the program. Parents may contribute ideas, materials, and their personal expertise into the program. All staff will have open communication with families at drop off and pick up, scheduled phone calls and/or meetings and through Hi-mama. Communication between all staff and families is of the utmost importance. If the staff have any concerns about a child’s behavior and/or development a meeting will be conducted with parents and the child’s teachers. Together staff and parents can plan goals for their child that is consistent and appropriate to be able to better support the child’s needs.

**Goal:** To provide child-initiated and adult-supported experiences.

**Approach:** The Emergent environment gives children the opportunity to problem-solve, self-correct, see connections in knowledge and to create new ideas. The childcare providers and educators are educated and trained in How Does Learning happen? The childcare providers and educators create weekly program plans based on weekly observations and documentations of individual children and children in a group. Staff provide opportunities for multiple experiences throughout the day.

**Goal:** To document and review the impact of the strategies identified in this Program Statement.

**Approach:** Evaluate and address successes and areas of opportunity at least annually based on written documentation, collaboratively with parents, guardians, care child providers, educators, and Owners/Operators.

### **Kidsville Early Learning Center is:**

- A participating member of Quality First [Quality First – THRC](#)
- A participating member of [Community Living Burlington](#)
- Licensed by The Ministry of Education’s Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 and guided by the professional resource, “How Does Learning Happen”; [www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14c11](http://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/14c11), [www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/HowLearningHappens.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/HowLearningHappens.pdf)