**Toronto Child Care Centre Philosophy**

At Toronto Community Child Care centre we believe that children are special and unique individuals. We collaborate with families and engage with the wider community to ensure that we provide a caring and supportive learning environment where children feel secure and develop a strong sense of belonging.

We provide a play based curriculum encompassing the Early Years Framework. Our Educators plan in partnership with families and will implement and develop programs and future learning experiences to suit children’s individual needs and interests. With respect and positive guidance the children develop a sense of self and confidence, gain new skills, face challenges and develop meaningful relationships. We develop a holistic approach to teaching which allows children to gain the skills to be confident, independent and involved learners who will try new things and safely take risks.

Each child is an individual who is an integral part of a group. A flexible daily program will cater for the needs and interests of the children individually and also in group settings. We provide a positive and stimulating environment both indoors and out that promotes respect for the world we live in and through direct participation we strive to make sustainable practises a natural part of everyday life.

We promote staff in their health and wellbeing along with their continuous personal and professional development through training opportunities. This ensures high quality care and inclusive practices allowing equity for all children in our care. We engage in reflection and look for ways to improve our practices. We advocate for each child and parents trust that we will recognise a child’s ongoing needs and will liaise with other professionals to meet these needs.

Our routines provide a balance of active, quiet and creative experiences and encourage interactions and explorations that build relationships and confident learners and enhance children’s emerging skills.

Families are the most important influence in every child’s life, they are the first teacher. Together, Educators, Families and Children work towards achieving goals, fostering communication and we encourage interaction, participation and involvement from all our families. We ensure that each child’s family and cultural belief and identity is respected and included in the Service.

We are committed to providing high quality Child Care with educational programs in a sustainable environment where children are encouraged to develop and become empowered and competent lifelong learners.

Redeveloped by staff and families and approved March 2012, Reviewed 2016, Reviewed March 2017

Sources: 1, 31