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Welcome to the Infant Room

What Next?

So, you've made the decision to enrol your child in Children's Circle Daycare. Congratulations, you've made a great decision and we're here to help both you and your child adjust with the least amount of fuss. This information sheet will detail how to make sure the daycare transition is easier on you and your child.

A Little About Our Room

We recognize that infants run on their own schedules, so when it comes to feeding and scheduling times each child will have their own schedule to follow in the infant room. The Infant Room has 10 spaces, for children from 12 months to 18 months. The Infant staffing consists of 3 ECE's, and one assistant. The Infant room is located through the gym as you walk toward the back of the centre. The Infant room is a starting point, not only for the children but for their parents as well. It is in this room that fond memories begin and the wonderful, strong bonds of friendship are formed; friendships for the children and their parents, creating support in the enriching challenge of raising our children.

Easing the Transition to Daycare

After years of experience, we've developed a system to assist parents and their children in becoming quickly familiar with the daycare. By following these steps as outlined, both you and your child will learn the 'ways' of Children's Circle, giving your child the chance to check things out gradually and yourself the opportunity to observe the educators at work.

Day One: 1st Visiting Day:

9:30am—11:15am...you and your child visit the Infant Room together; parents stepping out for a little time away.

Day Two: 2nd Visiting Day:

You initially stay with your child for a 1/2 an hour to an hour, and saying goodbye, stepping out once they are involved in play. Keeping in close contact with the staff,

you'll know just how long to be away from the class. You will be advised to pick up your child around 12:00pm.

Day Three: Official Start...

If all goes well, your child stays to nap and you can pick up your child at 2:30pm.

Keep in mind that general drop off and pick up times are difficult for newly-enrolled children and we therefore suggest that your child be given the opportunity to adjust slowly, initially a shorter stay at daycare, for example, between 9:00am and 4pm.

Your child may react differently to drop offs and pick ups each day until your child is familiar with their teachers and their new surrounding.

Communication

If you would like to communicate with us please feel free to call or email us with any concerns or questions that you may have. We will be happy to get back to you as soon as we have a moment

In the infant room there will be a message book for parents to write down any comment or concern that they may have that pertain to the infant room/children. This message book is read on a daily basis, and will be responded to as soon as possible. This does not mean that you are not able to speak to the teachers, the teachers are there to work in partnership with parents to guide and support children. It is important to communicate with us.

Emergent Curriculum

Educators understand individual differences and arrange their room so that children can explore at their own pace. We base our programme on Emergent Curriculum planning models using the children's interests and needs as the main resource. The goal of our planning programme is to respond to every child's interests. Its practice is open-ended and self-directed.

Some main skills that are emerging through the Infant Room are;

*Imitation—Sense of Self—Spatial Exploration—Vocalization and Babbling
Memory—Crawling and Walking—Taste Exploration*

What to Bring

A comforting toy, or blanket that will help your child to feel safe and secure. Bottles and soothers are acceptable in the Infant Room.

Necessary items on hand from home are:

- Three recent pictures of your infant
- One family picture
- Blanket for naptimes
- Pacifier
- Extra clothing (depending on season)
- Bottles (both glass and plastic are permitted)
- Cream (if necessary)
- Food *(only bought food is permitted in the infant room, if parents choose to provide it, the jars/containers of food need to have a visible expiry date)

**PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS WITH THE
INFANT'S FULL NAME**

Note: The centre provides diapers for the children from the Infant Room until and including the Hunny Bear Room.