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Welcome to the Toddler 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 frustration. This information sheet will detail how to make sure the daycare transition is easier on you and your child.

A Little About Our Room



The Toddler Room has 15 spaces, for children from 18 months to 2 1/2 years old.

The Toddler staffing consists of three ECE's, and one assistant.

The Toddler room is the first classroom, on the left after the preschool washroom as you enter the daycare. 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 Toddler 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.

A Typical Day

7:30—8:45 Small Group Time and Snack

8:30-8:45 Toileting routine/wash hands

8:45-9:00 Indoor Activities

9:00-11:00 Outdoor play in split groups, indoor activities in split groups

11:15-11:45 Planned learning circle

experience, washroom

11:45-12:15 Lunch

12:15-2:30 Naptime

2:30-2:45 Toilet Routine, snack, get ready for outside

3:00-4:00 Outdoor Play

4:00-4:30 Inside undress, washroom routine, snack

4:30-5:15 Small group activities

5:15-5:50 Quiet activities

6:00 Daycare closed

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 Toddler Room, but we encourage the child to be weaned from these items before graduating to the Hunny Bear Room.

Necessary items on hand from home are:

- A change of clothes (label all articles with child's name)
- Diaper cream if necessary.
- 2 pictures of just the child
- 1 family photo

* The centre provides diapers for the children in both the Toddler Room and Hunny Bear Room.

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 Toddler Room are;

*Parallel Play—Vocabulary—Pretend Play—Sensory/Spatial Exploration—Eating & Dressing
Walking and Running—Jumping and Climbing*

Typical Toddlers

Staff have resources available. If you require more detailed explanations on any of the following, please let us know. The following is a lists of behaviours in the Toddler age group.

Behaviours

- Shyness
- Biting
- Aggression
- Regression
- Possession

Keep these behaviours in mind when dealing with your Toddler. It is a comfort knowing that the stages your child goes through are quite typical of children in this age group.



Redirecting Behaviours

Most Toddlers need support from a teacher in times of frustration. If a child does need some redirection, staff will assist and redirect the child to a new activity.

Toilet Training

Toilet training is usually achieved between 18 and 30 months. The child's age does not matter nearly as much as your child's readiness.

Some signs of interest are:

- Dry when waking up;
- Interested and will sit on the toilet;
- Aware when wet;
- Uses words to describe needs.

Often children train between 2 and 2 1/4 years. If you believe your child is prepared, speak to the staff. As a team, parents and teachers work out a trial period for training. If your child becomes too stressed, we will agree to stop the trial and then resume when the child is interested again. We will **not use** pull-ups as an interim stage, as this might delay the transition period.

Have a Concern?

We are always willing to talk and discuss any of your concerns. We take our role in providing care for your child very seriously and value open communication. Please speak to us when you have a concern, keeping in mind that drop offs and pick ups are usually quite busy. If a longer discussion is needed to address a concern please set up either an in person or a telephone meeting. If you are not satisfied after speaking with the staff originally involved in the concern, speak with the Head of the Room teacher. If you still are not satisfied, please speak with the Supervisor. Please do not call the room between 12pm and 2:30pm, if it is an immediate concern call the office.