

Program Statement

May-2023

As a Ministry of Education licensed childcare facility, Little Got Talent Centre follows the regulations stated in the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014.

Also in 2014, the Ministry introduced a new pedagogy for early learning. It's called "How Does Learning Happen?". Little Got Talent has adopted the philosophies and thoughts about learning that are outlined in this pedagogy.

All educators have read the document and will apply those philosophies and thoughts in the classroom and to their curriculum.

"How Does Learning Happen" reminds us, as educators, that children are competent, capable, curious, and rich in potential. It also believes that there are four main conditions that are necessary for all children to thrive in an early learning environment and in all other areas in their lives. These four foundations of "How Does Learning Happen" are:

Belonging, Well-Being, Engagement, Expression

Little Got Talent believes that children learn best through action and play. Our educators will create classroom environments, both physical and emotional, that encourage and support play-based learning as well as actively promote the development of the four essential conditions of belonging, well-being, engagement, and expression.

We ensure a welcoming environment that is respectful of the diversity which exists within our center.

Goals:

Promoting Health, Safety, Nutrition, and Well-being:

We prioritize the physical and emotional well-being of each child, ensuring their safety and providing nutritious meals and snacks.

Approach: Implementing daily physical activities, outdoor play, and promoting healthy eating habits through balanced meals and snacks.

Positive and Responsive Interactions:

We foster positive and responsive interactions among children, parents, childcare providers, and staff. Approach: Encouraging regular communication and building strong connections between children, parents, and caregivers through daily updates, parent-teacher conferences, and family engagement events. staff, creating a supportive and respectful community.

Social Interaction and Self-Regulation:

We encourage children to interact and communicate in a positive way, supporting their ability to self-regulate emotions and behaviors.

Approach: Implementing mindfulness exercises, emotion recognition activities, and teaching calming techniques to help children identify and regulate their emotions effectively.

Exploration, Play, and Inquiry:

We provide opportunities for children to explore, engage in purposeful play, and pursue their inquiries, fostering their natural curiosity and love for learning.

Approach: Providing open-ended materials, engaging children in hands-on experiments, and offering opportunities for imaginative play and artistic expression.

Child-Initiated and Adult-Supported Experiences:

We promote child-initiated experiences, while also providing adult support and guidance to scaffold their learning and development.

Approach: Designating areas for child-initiated activities, promoting choices within structured routines, and offering guidance and support when needed.

Positive Learning Environments:

We plan for and create positive learning environments that are inclusive of all children, including those with individualized plans, ensuring every child's unique needs are met.

Approach: Incorporating diverse learning materials, celebrating cultural differences, and providing individualized support for children with special needs or diverse abilities.

Indoor and Outdoor Play, Rest, and Quiet Time:

We incorporate a balance of indoor and outdoor play, active play, rest, and quiet time into each day, considering the individual needs of the children.

Approach: Offering a variety of active play opportunities, designated nap or quiet time, and creating cozy reading corners for relaxation and quiet activities.

Parent Engagement and Communication:

We actively engage parents in our program and maintain ongoing communication, involving them in their child's learning journey and sharing insights and progress.

Approach: Hosting parent workshops, organizing family events, and maintaining regular communication channels (e.g., newsletters, emails, and online platforms) to involve parents in their child's learning journey.

Community Partnerships:

We collaborate with local community partners to support the children, their families, and staff, enriching our program through diverse resources and expertise.

Approach: Inviting guest speakers, arranging field trips to local organizations, and seeking partnerships with community resources (e.g., libraries, museums, and health services) to enhance children's learning experiences.

Professional Learning:

We support continuous professional learning for our staff, empowering them to stay updated with best practices and provide high-quality care and education.

Approach: Encouraging staff to attend workshops, conferences, and training sessions, providing access to professional resources, and facilitating regular reflective practices and peer learning opportunities.

Documentation and Review:

We document and regularly review the impact of our strategies on the children and their families, ensuring we continuously improve our program and meet their evolving needs.

Approach: Regularly documenting observations, assessing children's progress, seeking feedback from parents and staff, and conducting self-assessments to identify areas for improvement and make necessary adjustments to the program.

Approaches:

Emergent Curriculum: Our program follows an emergent curriculum approach, where we observe and listen to children's interests, ideas, and questions to inform our planning and provide meaningful learning experiences.

Play-Based Learning: We believe that play is essential for children's development, and we incorporate play-based learning throughout the daily routine, encouraging exploration, creativity, problem-solving, and social interaction.

Inquiry-Based Learning: We encourage children to ask questions, make predictions, explore possibilities, and find answers through hands-on experiences and investigations.

Reggio Emilia Inspired: We draw inspiration from the Reggio Emilia approach, valuing the child's voice, the importance of the environment, and the use of documentation to make learning visible.

Holistic Development: Our program supports children's physical, cognitive, social, emotional, and language development, providing a well-rounded and comprehensive educational experience.

We are committed to maintaining a high-quality childcare program that nurtures and empowers every child entrusted to us. This program statement serves as a guide for our practices, ensuring that we meet and exceed the requirements outlined by the Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) and Ontario Regulation.