



PROGRAM STATEMENT

OUR MISSION is

To provide a healthy, loving and stimulating child care environment within Ministry guidelines.

Overall Statement is

Canadian Mothercraft Home Child Care Agency is dedicated to establishing and maintaining safe home day care environments that provide quality experiences for children. Children are at a formative stage in their development. The quality and nature of their experiences at this age has a very significant effect on their future. At Canadian Mothercraft Home Child Care Agency we firmly believe that these experiences are a foundation of a child's life and that the ***How Does Learning Happen?*** clearly defines goals to build that foundation.

How Does Learning Happen?

Foundations	Goals for Children	Expectations for Programs
Belonging	Every child has a sense of belonging when he/she is connected to others and contributes to his/her world.	Cultivate respectful relationships and connections to create a sense of belonging among and between children, adults and the world around them.
Well-Being	Every child is developing a sense of self and health and well-being.	Nurture children's healthy development and support their growing sense of self.
Engagement	Every child is an active and engaged learner who explores the world with her/his senses, bodies and minds.	Provide environments and experiences to engage children in active, creative, and meaningful exploration and learning.
Expression	Every child is a capable communicator who is able to express himself/herself in many ways.	Foster communication and expression in all forms.

The quality of care is paramount at Canadian Mothercraft Home Child Care Agency. We take care with every home that we set up to ensure that it is a safe home compliant to Ministry guidelines and that it is properly set up with equipment, toys and crafts. (In many cases we provide the equipment, toys and crafts.)

New home day care providers are trained in Standard First Aid and CPR C before the home is opened. We encourage our Providers to take on going training which is offered through the Licensed Home Child Care network. They are encouraged to provide the children with engaging experiences through play, attend playgroups and library story times (where available) with a minimum of 2hrs outdoor play, weather permitting. A detailed binder is provided to each home with important reference information.

Home Childcare Advisors visit each home on a monthly basis. Although the Ministry guidelines require a visit only once every three months, we feel that it is very important to see home Child Care providers working with children to be able to assess the quality of care being provided. We believe that a monthly visit provides a better connection to the provider and a better understanding of the environment.

We also believe that a visit needs to involve children both to monitor how the child interacts but also to provide a good role model to the Provider. Often our Home Advisors will engage in a craft with the children, an easy way to interact with the children and show a constructive example.

If we see any signs of issues in the home, either related to safety, regulations or the quality of the experiences being provided we will discuss them with the provider and monitor ongoing.

Experienced Home Child Care providers need less training or encouragement but we still feel that regular monthly visits are valuable to keep a good connection with the Provider to offer support and to monitor for any changes in the environment.

To accomplish this

1. Keep children safe and healthy. (Promote the health, safety and well-being of young children, families and educators).

Here is what you will see:

- Up to date Ministry of Education Home Child Care agency license.
- Complete records of safety inspections, sleep monitor, sign in/out sheets and daily log book.
- A White binder in each home outlining all important safety issues.
- A Green binder with each child's individual information.

2. Communicate positively and responsively with children and parents. (Support positive and responsive interactions between educators, children and families).

Here is what you will see:

- The daily journal in an accessible location.
- A whiteboard with information about daily activities in each home.
- A posted menu plan

2. Communicate positively and responsively with children and parents. (Cont'd)

We Support Positive Interactions

By monitoring interactions in the home between the Provider, Parents and Child Care agency by offering advice and instruction when necessary.

Supporting Children to Manage their Behaviour

Children benefit socially, emotionally and physically from our positive approach. We help children understand their feelings and emotions and provide support to help children manage their behaviour.

All children are to be disciplined in a positive manner at a level appropriate to their actions and ages, using techniques including redirection, positive reinforcement, encouragement and discussion where appropriate. The following disciplinary measures are prohibited in accordance with the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 (CCEYA)*.

- corporal punishment of the child;
- physical restraint of the child, such as confining the child to a high chair, car seat, stroller or other device for the purposes of discipline or in lieu of supervision, unless the physical restraint is for the purpose of preventing children from hurting themselves or someone else, and is used only as a last resort and only until the risk of injury is no longer imminent;
- locking the exits of the home child care premises for the purpose of confining the child, or confining the child in an area or room without adult supervision, unless such confinement occurs during an emergency and is required as part of Mothercraft Ottawa's Emergency Management Policies and Procedures;
- use of harsh or degrading measures or threats or use of derogatory language directed at or used in the presence of a child that would humiliate, shame or frighten the child or undermine their self-respect, dignity or self-worth;
- depriving the child of basic needs including food, drink, shelter, sleep, toilet use, clothing or bedding; or
- inflicting any bodily harm on children including making children eat or drink against their will.

The Home Childcare Advisor will review behaviour management methods during regular visits and safety checks.

If A Provider/family member violates these requirements. In serious matters we will follow Ministry regulations by informing CAS and our Ministry Advisor, closing the home until the matter has been resolved. Even if the issue does not require a formal report we take all violations of appropriate behaviour very seriously. We will discuss the issue with the provider, indicate behaviours that need to be adjusted and monitor ongoing.

3. Help children interact and connect in lots of ways. (Encourage and enable children to interact and communicate in a myriad of ways with each other, the provider and with their communities).

Here is what you will see:

- Lots of ways for children to communicate their ideas, thoughts and feelings including:
Posting Children's art work for Parents and others to see.
Teaching manners: waiting your turn, please and thank you.
Helping friends get dressed to go out ,undressed coming back inside.
Through play

4. Support and encourage play based learning. (Evidence from diverse fields of study tells us that when children are playing, they are learning.)

Here is what you will see:

- *Hooks with children's names where they hang their coats*
- *Children's art work posted on provider's wall with the child's name and date (documentation).*
- *Good selection of toys indoors and outdoors, rotation of toys*
- *Attending Playgroups and Library story time*
- *Stories the children tell about their day*

Supporting Healthy Development and Learning

Outdoor play for a minimum of 2 hours per day
2 foods groups for snacks, 4 food groups for lunch
Water available to drink at all times
Hand washing after toileting and before eating
Rest or nap time – No longer than 2 hours per day

5. Meet children's different needs by including indoor and outdoor play, active play, quiet plan and rest time. Children arrive-greeted by the Provider

Quiet time to play and look at books, listen to music
Snack time
Get dressed to go outside – 1 hour
Inside to wash hands for Lunch
Lunch time
Nap/rest time – max 2 hours- sleep monitoring chart completed
Wake up, bathroom time, hands washed
Snack time
Dressed for outdoor play – 1 hour
Parents arrive to pick up.

- 6. Use the resources in my community to help children and families connect with what is available.** Mothercraft Ottawa Home Childcare agency has a Partner with a Local children's consignment store. They give us weekly supplies of clothes, toys, equipment, books basically anything child related which we in turn give to our Providers and the families in their care to help support many of our families who are experiencing difficult times