



Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN) is a standardized training approach designed to improve the quality of programs offered to each child enrolled in our early learning and child care program. This approach provides our Educators a framework within which programming decisions can be made. It promotes early identification supporting timely referrals to the appropriate community resources. As part of QCCN each program receives an Annual Support Visit.

## As part of QCCN we use the following developmental tools:

### DISC (Diagnostic Inventory for Screening Children) Preschool Screen (DPS)

- Early developmental screening tool designed to screen children between the ages of 6 to 60 months within 4 – 6 weeks of starting in a program.
- **Completed annually with every child.**
- Reliable in identifying children who may be at risk of developmental delay and providing appropriate referral for next steps.

### Speech and Language Developmental Checklist

- Checklist that examines key milestones of speech and language development for children birth to five years.
- **Completed annually with every child.**
- Identifies children who may be at risk for a speech and/or language delay or disorder
- Complements the Developmental Preschool Screen (DPS)
- Provides a user-friendly format for recording observations, obtaining a baseline record of skills and sharing the information with families
- Ministry of Children and Youth Services' goal is to see the average age of referral for speech and language services be 24 months of age

### Behaviour Checklist: Children's Actions, Relationships, & Emotions (C.A.R.E.)

- An intervention screening tool that identifies behaviour patterns in children ages 24 to 72 months.
- Provides a format for recording of observations, sharing information with families and steps for Behaviour Consultant referral.
- **Completed on an as needed basis.**

### Environmental Rating Scales

- A variety of early environmental rating scales, geared to children's age groups designed to enhance the quality of learning environment to support children's development. **Programs complete on all rooms on an annual basis.**

### Caregiver Interaction Scale

- The Caregiver Interaction Scale (CIS) gathers information on the affective tone of adult-child interactions in a child care program by observing the program staff in action.
- CIS gathers information by observing three specific dimensions of adult behavior (sensitivity, harshness and detachment).
- The tone and type of adult-child interaction establishes a program's affective environment, this in turn strongly influences a child's outcome within the program.

**Vision:** A consistent approach to excellence in early learning for children and families through the commitment of highly knowledgeable and responsive educators.

**Statement:** A strength-based, reciprocal partnership supporting children and professionals through a continuum of collaboration, training and the use of developmental tools.

## As part of QCCN we use the following supporting documents and resources:

### Developmental Reference Charts

- The Developmental Reference Guide is a document to support developmental program planning in five different domains: Social, Emotional and Personal self-help skills; Communication, Language, Literacy and Cognitive; Knowledge and Understanding of the World (science and math); Physical Development and Movement (fine motor & gross motor); and Artistic and Creative Development (dramatic play, dance, creative experiences).
- It contains information about children's development and learning.

### Developmental Profiles Text

- Designed to help Educators grasp the complexity of child development pre-birth through 12 years. The book highlights major characteristics for each of the developmental domains in a concise, non-technical, point-by-point format.

### Brigance Readiness Binder

- A comprehensive instructional resource that provides information, teaching activities, techniques and references for educators to use to strengthen children's readiness skills in five domains (Language Development, Literacy, Mathematics, Social and Emotional Development and Physical Health and Development).
- Identifies children's specific strengths offering supports and assists Educators in developmental goals for their rooms.

### 'The Building Blocks' of Emergent Literacy

- Presentation provides a consistent message of the 'Building Blocks' of Emergent Literacy to Educators
- Solid foundation for understanding how literacy develops in young children
- Opportunity to share ideas that promote natural and authentic experiences for children to explore emergent literacy in their environment

### Resource and Inventory Checklists

- Programs receive a resource list based on the age (Infant/Toddler, Preschool, School Age) to review during an QCCN Annual Support Visit.
- The Resource List offers programs a base list of items from the environmental rating scales to have available in their rooms.
- The Resource List can be used as a reflective tool, document items for purchasing or for a wish list.

### Program Profile

- A reflective tool for Educators to use throughout the year to highlight the strengths of their classroom and to help guide curriculum, environment and pedagogy.

### Early Years Curriculum Criteria Chart

- A reflective tool highlighting all components of QCCN for Educators to use when planning and documenting their curriculum.

For further information please see QCCN Webpage at <http://eccdc.org/quality-child-care-niagara/>

**QCCN Values:** Accountability, Engagement, Inclusivity, Intentionality, Responsive, Reflective, Respectful, Inviting Environments, Commitment