

## Engage and Connect with Quality Child Care Niagara

### Mid-year 2024 Updates

1. Quality Child Care Niagara Expectations for Tools and Resources
2. Updated QCCN Resources – Program Profile & QCCN Portfolio of Tools
3. Birth to School Start Speech-Language Pathology Referral Checklist – ***French version available!***
4. 2024 Rotation 2 QCCN Training – ***New dates!***
5. QCCN Community Conversation Cafés Fall 2024
6. Mandatory QCCN Speech and Language Training – ***Ends October 2024***

### Quality Child Care Niagara Expectations for Tools and Resources

Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN) is a **mandatory** Quality Initiative Program of Service Agreements with Niagara Region Children’s Services, which includes **QCCN Tools and Resources, QCCN Training, and QCCN Support Visits.**

#### Tools and Resources

The following resources and tools are **mandatory** components to be completed:

- **DISC Preschool Screen (DPS)** within 4-6 weeks of the child’s start date and completed for every child with consent from the family (**annually**).
  - ✚ **Consent form, DPS booklets, and DPS Tracking Sheet**
- **Speech & Language Referral Checklist** within 6-8 weeks of the child’s start date and completed for every child with consent from the family (**annually**).
  - ✚ **Consent form, Speech & Language Referral Checklists, and Speech & Language Tracking Sheets**
- **Behaviour Children’s Actions Relationships and Emotions (C.A.R.E.) Checklist** as needed over a 20-day period with consent from the family (**as needed**).
  - ✚ **Consent form and Behaviour C.A.R.E. Checklist**
- **QCCN Monthly Statistical Reports** submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month and print hard copy or save electronically (**monthly**).

The following resources and tools are **encouraged** components to be completed as needed:

- **Program Profile**
- **Caregiver Interaction Scale**
- **Family Engagement Strategies**
- **Environmental Rating Scales, Environment Rating Scales Feedback Forms and Resource and Inventory Lists**

The following resources and tools are provided to centres through QCCN to refer to as needed:

- **Brigance Readiness Binder**
- **Developmental Profiles Textbook**
- **QCCN Developmental Reference Charts**

## Updated QCCN Resources

- **Program Profile**
- **QCCN Portfolio of Tools**
- **QCCN Speech and Language Pathology Referral Checklist – by 30 months (2.5 years)**
- **QCCN Speech and Language Pathology Referral Checklist – by 48 months (4 years)**

[Click here](#) to access these updated QCCN Resources

## Birth to School Start Speech-Language Pathology Referral Checklist – *French version available!*

Niagara Children’s Centre has provided the community with French versions of the Speech and Language Pathology Referral Checklists. [Click here](#) to access them.

## QCCN Training - *New Dates!*

The QCCN Reflective Practice Institute Training is being offered through pre-recorded webinar modules for educators supporting infant, toddler, and preschool programs in Niagara who **did not** complete the QCCN Reflective Practice Institutes.

When registering for the QCCN Reflective Practice Institute Webinar Modules, individuals will be committing to:

- **Completing all five (5) Pre-recorded Webinar Modules** and **QCCN Training Evaluations** over the offered training period.
- **Saving or printing** a copy of the QCCN Training Evaluation to share with their centre Supervisor.

After registering, participants will receive an email with all five (5) webinar module links and QCCN Training Evaluation. A certificate will be provided following the completion of **all** components of QCCN Reflective Practice Institute training.



### Training Dates

**September 30 to December 9, 2024**

[Click here](#) for registration information

### Webinar Modules

Module 1: Introduction to QCCN Reflective Practice Institute and DPS

Module 2: Environmental Supports

Module 3: QCCN Developmental Planning Tools

Module 4: Becoming a Reflective Practitioner and Engaging Family and Children

Module 5: Speech & Language and Emergent Literacy (*this module includes the updated Speech and Language training*)

## QCCN Community Conversation Cafés - *New Dates!*



### Starting Conversations through Interacting and Connecting

**September 26, 2024** from **6:30 to 7:30 pm** ([click here](#) for registration)

We know relationships are at the very heart of early learning. In this conversation café, we will look at how children learn through their relationships with the three teachers (families, educators, and environment). Strategies will be explored that we can incorporate into our practice to build and strengthen these connections through our daily conversations and interactions.



### Supporting Your Early Learning Environment

**October 24, 2024** from **6:30 to 7:30 pm** ([click here](#) for registration)

The environment is often referred to as the “third teacher” due to its importance in early learning. In this café we will discuss how a positive environment that is rich in a variety of experiences, materials, and opportunities can support children’s learning and the development of the whole child. Join the QCCN Team as we highlight tools and resources that can provide us with strategies for increasing quality in our environments.



### Engaging Families Through Completion of the DPS

**November 21, 2024** from **6:30 to 7:30 pm** ([click here](#) for registration)

According to *Webster's New World College Dictionary* (4th ed.), to "engage" is "to draw into, involve, to attract and to hold". In this café, we will have conversations on how completing the DISC Preschool Screen (DPS) presents an opportunity to establish ongoing and responsive relationships with families and engage them in our programs. Interested in learning more about the DPS or want to learn how to best implement the tool? Join the QCCN Team as we reflect on how the tool can build on trust and communication with families and embark on having the conversation as well as imparting practical tips for successful implementation.

## QCCN Speech and Language Module Training for *all* Educators – *Ends October 2024*

Since **October 23, 2023** registration has been open for the new **mandatory** QCCN Speech and Language Module training. Centres have until **October 21, 2024** to ensure all educators who meet both criteria (listed below) complete this mandatory training.

The pre-recorded webinar module is approximately an hour in length and includes training on the new Niagara Children’s Centre Online Referral Portal and updated Checklists, Referral Process, and documents. **Please note**, the cut-off date for the previous Speech and Language documents (updated October 2020) was February 28, 2023.

### What are the criteria?

This training is **mandatory** for staff who meet **both** the following criteria:

- a) Educators currently supporting infant, toddler, and/or preschool programs in Niagara; and
- b) Educators who have completed the QCCN Reflective Practice Institute in the past (between November 2015 and August 2023).

If you meet **both** criteria from above, then this QCCN Speech and Language Webinar Training Module is **mandatory** for you.

### Who submits the registrations?

We ask that **Supervisors** register all team members who meet the above criteria. Registrations made by individual staff members cannot be accepted at this time. Supervisors, [click here](#) to register your staff.



**Please use the pathway document to guide you through the mandatory QCCN Speech and Language Module Training: [Click here](#)**

We are looking forward to continuing our support with programs in their quality journey. Please feel free to contact the QCCN Coordinator with any questions, further supports, and to access further materials at **905.646.7311 x. 306** or [click here](#) to email.