

# Quality Child Care Niagara Expectations for 2023

## About QCCN

Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN) is a standardized, research-based approach designed to enhance the quality of early childhood programs. QCCN has strengthened the foundation of child care and early childhood education through high quality child care experiences, individual developmental programming and outcomes, and supports and services throughout Niagara. Quality Child Care Niagara is a mandatory component of Service Agreements with Niagara Region Children's Services.

## QCCN Components

### 1) Resources and Tools

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 each child with consent from the family
  - **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 each child with consent from the family
  - **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
  - **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 hardcopy 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 the centres through QCCN to refer to as needed:

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

## 2) Training

**For child care programs with a purchase of service agreement with Niagara Region Children’s Services, it is a requirement to have the child care educator’s trained in Quality Child Care Niagara.**

To facilitate all staff in being trained on an ongoing basis, the QCCN Reflective Practice Institute is currently available for educators supporting infant, toddler and preschool programs and who have not previously taken the training. The Reflective Practice Institute is available to view as five pre-recorded webinars. Connect with the QCCN Coordinator to register staff for the upcoming training session or visit the [QCCN webpage](#).

## 3) Support Visits

In 2022, the new Level of Support program was implemented and this year Niagara Region Children’s Services has continued to use data variables to determine each licensed child care centre’s Level of Support (Level 1, 2, or 3). In January 2023, licensed child care centres received an email with a memo from Niagara Region Children’s Services regarding the QCCN Level of Support for this year. ECCDC will coordinate accordingly with program’s level of support.

For licensed child care centres who do not have an agreement with Niagara Region Children’s Services, but have chosen to participate in QCCN:

### **QCCN will commit to providing:**

- QCCN Reflective Practice Institute training.
- QCCN Tool kit.
- QCCN Level of Support visits.

### **The Child Care Program will commit to:**

- Implementation of the QCCN tools.
- Submission of monthly QCCN stats.
- Ensuring all new educators are trained in QCCN.
- Sign off on the Niagara Region Children’s Services: Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN) Terms and Agreement and Acknowledgement document.

As part of the QCCN program, centres receive a support visit to promote the use of QCCN tools and put into practice the strategies provided in training and address any concerns that may be associated with quality programming.

## For Further Support

- 1) 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.
- 2) All QCCN forms and information can be found on the QCCN webpage [HERE](#)
- 3) Videos to support you further can be found [HERE](#)
- 4) Frequently Asked Questions can be accessed [HERE](#)
- 5) QCCN Supplemental Resources are available [HERE](#)
- 6) Would you like to dialogue with other staff in using the tools and resources? Connect with the QCCN Coordinator to be a part of an upcoming QCCN Community Conversation Café. [Click here](#) to email.