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## **Inclusion Policy**

### **Inclusion**

At Royal City Cooperative Preschool, we know that all children are special. We strive to provide equal opportunities and to be a welcoming place for all, recognizing that no two children have exactly the same needs. All children, irrespective of special educational need, disability, mental health, medical need, race, culture, class, creed, sexual orientation, gender or social status have a right to express their needs and have them met.

At RCCP, we aim:

- To work in partnership with all those involved in the child's upbringing
- To recognize the importance of parents/carers and families in the life of every child
- To actively try to seek the views of children and families and value their contribution
- To promote access for all children to the same range of services, facilities and resources
- To safeguard the welfare of every child
- To provide a range of stimulating, fun and creative activities which are both age and ability appropriate
- To increase awareness of special needs, minority groups and groups that can be discriminated against
- To challenge unacceptable language, actions and beliefs which may be prejudicial or exclusive to others

It will be understood that if the Resource Consultant or anyone from Inclusion Support Services is observing a child in our program, they will remain in the classrooms with the child during their

observations or screening.

Parents who are concerned with any aspect of the Inclusion Policy should discuss their concerns, in writing, by email, by phone or in person, with either a teacher or a board member. The complaint will be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors where the matter will be discussed and rectified in a timely manner.

## **Inclusion of Children with Special Needs**

Royal City Cooperative Preschool accepts and welcomes children who are medically challenged. We promote full participation and friendships between children with special support needs and typically developing children by:

- Ensuring all children, including children with disabilities, are valued, active participants in group social play, as well as in all of the centre's activities and routines.
- Ensuring staff receive specific training in the promotion of inclusive social play.
- Having our staff team with parents and specialists to develop, carry out and review individual plans for children with disabilities.
- Embedding goals of children's individual plans in regular activities.
- Demonstrating a positive attitude about making changes to accommodate all children.

## **Special Health Care Needs**

- All staff may be requested to provide support to children with a range of special needs, including behavioural interventions, health care routines and other therapeutic interventions.
- The procedure to be carried out will be developed in consultation with the Supervisor, parent(s), health care professionals, board members, staff and other professionals.
- The Community and Mental Health Association, Kids Ability and County of Wellington Resource Consultant will be consulted when support is needed.