Davenport-Perth
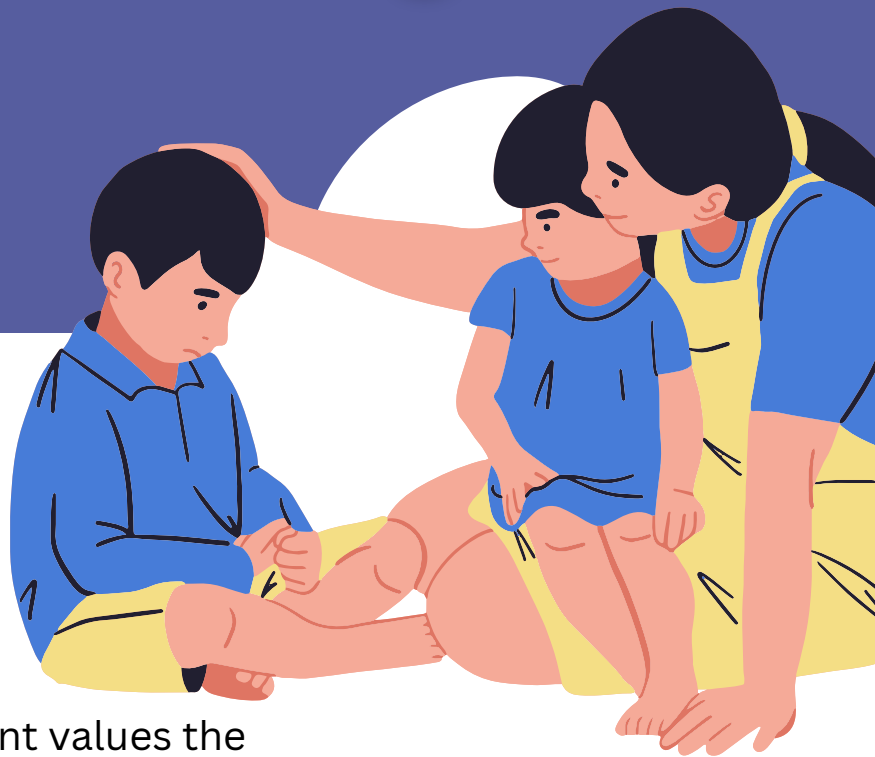### Neighbourhood and Community Health Centre

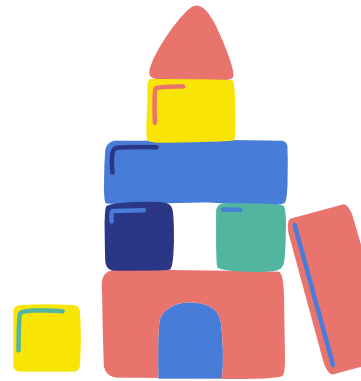# Children & Youth Program Policies for Parents and Caregivers

Vision Statement

Our Children and Youth department values the development, celebrates the diversity, and respects the uniqueness of each child, parent, and caregiver. We are committed to supporting the growth of each child's personal and interpersonal skills.

Program Policies and Guidelines

Our staff is committed to:

- Provide support and be a positive role model to the children and youth.
- Provide internal referrals to a variety of services such as settlement, community dietician, counselor therapy, etc.
- Provide support and external referrals and information in the community.

Toys and Equipment

- Toys and equipment belonging to the Centre will be labelled with *"DPNCHC"* and cannot leave the program space.
- To reduce the spread of germs and illnesses, program staff will sanitize and clean toys used by children.
- We encourage children to pick-up and return toys to their appropriate space.

We ask parents to label toys that children are bringing from home, so they are easily identifiable and not mistaken for another child's or the Centre's toys. We are not responsible for toys that are lost, stolen, and/or during program.

Snack Time

We provide children with nutritious and healthy snacks in our programs, with the exception of our all day camps (March Break Camp, Summer Camp, Youth Experience Program). Children will have a designated eating space, and staff will ensure cleanliness and sanitization of the space.

If families are sending additional snacks with their children, we kindly ask for parents and caregivers to pack PEANUT- FREE snacks.

Electronics

The use of electonrics is prohibited in programs, please do no send children with gaming devices, tablets, or laptops.
If a child brings a cellphone, they will be asked to put them away during activities.
We are not responsible for any lost, stolen, and/or damaged electronics.

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Health Policy

In order to prevent the spread of illnesses, we kindly ask parents and caregivers to keep children home if they are sick or feeling unwell. Children cannot participate in program if they are experiencing one or more of the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- Sore throat
- Pink eye
- Uncontrollable coughing
- Skin rashes

Program staff may use their discretion if a child is too unwell to participate in programs. Staff will call parents to pick-up their child.

Child Behaviour Policy

The following guidelines will be used when addressing behavioral challenges with children in the program. The use of techniques will depend on the severity of the incident and the individuality of the child.

(a) **MINOR BEHAVIOURAL DIFFICULILITES** are, but not limited to: not listening during group activities, disrupting the group, not listening to counsellors, etc.
- <u>Possible actions by the staff</u>: verbal warning, reminder of program rules and guidelines, supervised breaks from activities, etc.

(b) **SERIOUS BEHAVIOURAL DIFFICULTIES** are but not limited to: swearing, name calling, bullying, exclusion of others, throwing toys, etc.
- <u>Possible actions by the staff</u>: supervised breaks from activity, time outs, parents will be informed, conversation with the child, etc.

(c) **MORE SERIOUS BEHAVIOURAL DIFFICULTIES** are but not limited to: all of the above on a continuous or regular behavior, assaulting another child, creating a safety concern for other children, running away from program, etc.
- <u>Possible actions by the staff</u>: a meeting will be called with staff, Manager of Children and Youth Services, the child, and their parent/ caretaker to take about possible solutions and supports.

Program Location and Contact

Location

Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood and Community Health Centre
1900 Davenport Rd
Toronto, ON
M6N1B7
416-656-8025

Contact Information

Manager of Children & Youth Services:
Erika Garcia
egarcia@dpnchc.ca
416-656-8025 ext. 242

General Program information:
childrenandyouth@dpnchc.ca
416-656-8025 ext. 266