

FAQ

What are the ages you care for? We offer care to children from 10 months up to 5 years. We have two classrooms for children under 36 months and one classroom for children aged 3 to 5 years old (sometimes 6 years old depending where their birthday falls and when they start school).

What are the child to teacher ratios? 1:4 for children under 36 months and 1:8 for children aged 3 to 5. We also have additional staff to provide smaller ratios when needed.

When are you closed? We are closed on all BC Stat Holiday's, one week at Christmas and one week at the end of August. We also follow the <u>School District 48</u>'s non-instructional days schedule for our Early Dismissal Professional Development days.

What are Early Dismissal Professional Development days (Pro-D days)? Pro-D days are used for the team to participate in workshops, to collaborate with their teams on program planning geared towards the specific needs of the children and their classrooms and to ensure their classrooms are continuously set up and organized for the success of the children. We provide care until 11:30 on these days.

What's included in the fees? All taxes are included in the listed fee amount. Fees are based on an average of 21 business days per month and are subject to an annual increase not more than 3%. We make every effort to continuously participate in the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative, renewal notices will be provided every April.

What is your late pick up policy? We are understanding that there may be a one-off situation where you are late picking up, however, if multiple late pick-ups occur you will be charge \$3.00 per minute. This fee will be added to your following month fees.

What curriculum do you follow? Our primary curriculum is Emergent based, meaning we follow the child's lead and focus learning outcomes around their current interests. We appreciate the philosophies of High Scope and Montessori. Our teachers use these curriculums as a framework for our approach to care. Our number one goal is ensuring the children are building a strong sense of self while having fun in a respectful environment with gentle guidance from their teachers.





What does a typical day look like? The day is primarily focused around play, play is where the children do their deepest learning. We promote engaged play in all aspects of each day. Children will be provided open activity time to explore and create within their classroom, they will have a minimum of two hours outside time a day. They will participate in large group activities such as circle time, where they will learn basic academics, yoga, meditation, songs, games and more and small group activities where the teachers will plan specific activities around the children's interests. All planned activities are open ended and used to expand the boundaries surrounding their interests. Throughout every aspect of the day we encourage positive interactions with peers and promote problem solving and conflict resolution.

What makes Paragon Kids unique? We believe every program starts with the best of intentions with thoughtful philosophies and motives. Unfortunately, we understand how easily this can be lost through staff turnover, poor training or lack thereof, staff burnout etc. At Paragon Kids we have put the necessary tools in place to ensure we are able to continuously follow through on our promises to you and your children. Some of these tools are our professional development days, our August closure, and monthly staff meetings. We also provide up to \$500 to every staff annually as a credit to be used towards professional development, workshops, or any training related to their role. We support our teachers by providing competitive wages, benefits and flexible time off. We understand the difficulties within our community of finding qualified Educators, this is why Paragon Kids offers subsidized staff housing to ensure we are able to recruit highly educated teachers from out of province and provide them with a smooth transition into our community. In addition to our classroom Educators, Paragon Kids has "out of ratio" educators who support the teachers need for flexible time off without causing any interruptions to your child's care while also having an additional set of hands available to support within the classrooms when and where needed. To ensuring our philosophy is continuously followed through on, we have our Floor Supervisor who works alongside the Director while closely within each classroom to support and guide our teaching approach while planning training around the specific needs of each classroom.

