

CHILDSPACE DAY CARE CORPORATION**WEATHER/ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**
Created: March 2014 Revised: December 11, 2017**Weather conditions and outdoor play**

Childspace Day Care Corporation (“Childspace”) adheres to the Ontario Child Care Early Years Act (CCEYA). The CCEYA stipulates that children over thirty months of age, in attendance for six hours or more in a day, play outdoors for at least two hours daily, weather permitting, unless a child’s physician/parent advises otherwise in writing. The CCEYA also stipulates that each child under thirty months of age, in attendance for six hours or more in a day, is outdoors for sleep or play or both for a period of up to two hours each day, weather permitting, unless a physician/parent of the child advises otherwise in writing.

If a physician or parent of the child advises otherwise in writing, the Centre will do its best to accommodate such written request permitted there is extra staff. In most cases, the Centres staff each centre with the appropriate amount of staff to maintain ratios. In these cases, the centre will not be able to accommodate the parent and/or physician’s request as there are no extra staff to cover the ratio of one child to one staff.

Children will have two hours of outdoor programming daily except during inclement weather which is defined as temperatures **below** -11 degrees Celsius (actual temperature or due to wind chill is from -1 to -11), temperatures **higher** than 30 degrees Celsius, heavy rain/blizzard, sleet/hail, heavy winds or as indicated by posted humidex warnings, wind chill or other severe weather warnings (such as smog alert or heat alert).

Childspace verifies the temperature and weather conditions five to ten minutes before getting the children dressed for outdoor play. Weather information is taken from the following website:

<http://www.accuweather.com/en/ca/east-york/m4k/weather-forecast/49561>

If outdoor play is not possible due to inclement weather conditions as described above, an inside alternate gross motor play activity will take place.

All centers will utilize the same website (which uses our individual postal code) and announce to their rooms the result which takes into Consideration **City of Toronto Alerts** for air quality and the UV index.

Sun safety

Childspace will adhere to Toronto Public Health guidelines which stipulate precautions that caregivers can take to protect children from overexposure to sun. The following precautions are in place at Childspace:

- 1) Time outdoors will be limited between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- 2) Sun block will be applied to children prior to their time outdoors.

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- 3) Children will be provided with water to drink during their time outdoors.
- 4) While outdoors, shaded areas of play will be provided for the children.

This policy will be reviewed with all staff, student, and volunteer prior to employment and annually thereafter. Staff, students and volunteers will sign to demonstrate they have read and understood the policy.