



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### *How long is your waitlist, and will our family have to wait until a spot becomes available?*

Effective April 1, 2024, our program no longer maintains a wait list. Please visit our website to add your family to the email distribution list. When placements become available, they will be offered to families that joined the waiting list before March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. After this time, they will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis to families of eligible age. Please ensure that our email address is on your safe senders list. Wait times vary and are impossible to predict.

### *What are the next steps when we have been offered placement? How do we move forward and register our child?*

Families will be contacted once a space becomes available. An admissions interview by telephone or an in-person visit will be scheduled. In order to secure placement, we require a non-refundable deposit of \$650.00 (the wait-list fee will be put toward the security deposit) payable by electronic transfer. These funds will be refunded towards tuition when 7 months' full-time attendance has lapsed (6-month minimum new family policy plus one full month's notice of departure). After completion of either an admissions interview or tour, we require the security deposit to be paid within 24 hours.

### *What are your hours of operation?*

We are open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Our doors open promptly at 8:30 a.m. we do not accommodate earlier drop off.

### *What is your class size and how many teachers do you have?*

Our program is licenced for 25 children; however, our class size is limited to a maximum of 22 children with 4 full time educators and one part time educator. The Program Manager works remotely.

### *What is your program's educational philosophy?*

We are a play-based program that utilizes components from several pedagogies, such as Montessori, Reggio Emilia, and the Renzulli method. Our program is inquiry-based and follows an emergent curriculum.

### *Do you close for holidays?*

We are closed for all statutory holidays. Additionally, the program closes for two weeks at the end of December and two weeks in the Summer (usually July) for well-deserved staff holidays.

### *Do you provide a meal service?*

Children are required to bring their lunch each day. Since its inception in 1967, our program has had a no-sugar policy; we ask that whole foods rather than processed food items be included in your child's lunch. The program provides a substantial morning snack; families provide fruit and/or vegetables for afternoon snacks.



## *What are your fees?*

The monthly fees are \$1430.00 per month, our program has opted into the Parent Fee Reduction Initiative which reduces fees considerably. We are fully licensed and can assist families interested in applying for the ACCB.

## *Are there any additional expenses?*

Each year, our parent body chooses whether to add extracurricular programs at an additional fee. For the 2024/25 school year, families have opted to offer Zumbini, Yoga (YogaBuggy), Music and Movement (DramaBugs), Soccer/Football (HappyFeet), and Nature School. These classes occur during the school day, generally in the late morning.

## *Is ABC University Daycare part of the \$10 A Day ChildCareBC Program?*

At ABC University Daycare, we deeply value providing high-quality care and education, including a robust range of extracurricular programs that enhance our children's development. While the \$10-a-day daycare program offers increased affordability for families, it presents significant challenges for providers like us. The capped fees may not cover our operational costs, including staff salaries, facility upkeep, and the specialized resources required for our unique programming. Additionally, we maintain higher-than-mandated staff-to-child ratios to ensure personalized attention and care, a standard we believe is crucial to fostering a safe and enriching environment. Joining this program would limit our ability to maintain these standards and the extracurricular activities that families appreciate and that align with our educational values. Compliance with the program's regulations would also require administrative adjustments and potential sacrifices in how we operate, which could detract from the tailored and enriched learning experience we currently offer. For these reasons, we believe not participating allows us to uphold the current quality and scope of care that our families expect and deserve.

## *Do you accept children still in diapers?*

No, all children must be toilet trained. A diaper/pull-up for a quiet time (nap) is the only exception.

## *What is your vaccine policy?*

Children must be fully vaccinated per the schedule set by Vancouver Coastal Health. This policy extends to the yearly flu vaccine. Although the COVID-19 vaccine is not mandatory, this policy could change.

## *What kind of policies do you have regarding COVID-19?*

Comprehensive pandemic policies are in place and will be in place for the foreseeable future. Our educators have had at least two doses plus two boosters and will continue to abide by public health recommendations.