



Esquimalt Preschool

2021/2022 School Year Program Application

ESQUIMALT
PARKS + RECREATION

NAME OF CHILD: _____
(GIVEN) (SURNAME)

Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Child's age September 2021: _____

Enrolling Parent: _____
(GIVEN) (SURNAME)

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Start Date: _____ Note: One Application per child required

✓ **Please check off preschool requested:**

- | | | |
|--|----------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mon/Wed Class | 9:00am-12:00pm | \$20/day for 10 months |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tue/Thu Class | 9:00am-12:00pm | \$20/day for 10 months |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fantastic Fridays | 9:00am-12:00pm | \$18/day for 10 months |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kinderstart M/W/F | 12:30-3:00pm | \$16/day for 10 months |

The program does not run during School Breaks or Stat Holidays, this is reflected in monthly fees.

Applications for September 2021 will be accepted as of 7:00am PST on April 20, 2021 via email to osc@esquimalt.ca and must be received by May 4, 2021 to be processed in priority order. Please check off the highest priority that applies to the applicant below:

1. Current participants applying as of April '21
2. Siblings of current participants
3. New registrants

After April 20, 2021 we will continue accepting applications for the waitlist.

Incomplete Applications Will Not Be Accepted

The following information **MUST** be attached to this application package to be accepted:

- Doctor name & phone number (name of Walk in Clinic if no doctor)
- Medical Care Card Number
- Immunization Record** (unless not immunized – please check that box) A **new** form is required by Licensing every year, old ones on file will not be accepted.
- Everything is signed and completed including Parent Handbook Initialed

For further program information please contact:

Seth Jerome, Recreation Supervisor

Phone: 250-412-8512 or email: seth.jerome@esquimalt.ca

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Time Received: _____ Staff Initial: _____

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Registered in _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments Scheduled | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Reg Processing Fee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Registered in _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments Scheduled | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Registered in _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments Scheduled | |

PRE-AUTHORIZATION DEBIT PLAN AGREEMENT FORM

The following must be completed for this registration to be processed.

I, _____ authorize the Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt to process all Preschool Fees (*\$30 Registration Processing Fee at the time of registration and on the 1st of each month Monthly Program Fees and any Late Pick-up Fees*) incurred throughout the year by the following payment method:

If you already have payment info on file please specify which payment method to use (ex last 4 digits of Credit card or EFT) as multiple payment methods are often stored on client's profile.

Credit Card Information:

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

VISA MasterCard AMEX

Expiry Date on Card: _____ **CVV Number on back of Card:** _____

Bank Account Information:

Please attach a cheque marked "VOID" or stamped document from your bank with account information.

Please Note: NSF Payments or declined Credit Cards will be charged a \$20 fee. Replacement of the payment will be due immediately by cash, certified cheque or debit/credit card. For additional information regarding delinquent accounts please refer to the Parent Handbook.

Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB)

Yes, I am applying and/or qualify for ACCB.

Please note: ACCB does not normally cover the full costs of care. A method of payment for your parent portion must be indicated above. A copy of your Authorization must be received 1 week prior to the first day of program in order to adjust your parent portion. If authorization is not received, the full amount will be charged on the 1st business day of the month.

Third Party Billing:

Yes, I require third party billing.

The second party splitting the cost of care is: _____

The second party MUST complete a separate Pre-Authorization Debit Plan Agreement Form.

Email Address for all receipts: _____

Signature: _____



ESQUIMALT PARKS AND RECREATION PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FORMS 2021/2022

CHILD'S NAME: _____

Birth Date: _____

Gender: _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Guardian's Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Postal Code: _____ e-mail: _____

Guardian's Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Relationship to Child: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Street Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

Postal Code: _____ e-mail: _____

CUSTODY RESTRICTIONS

Are there custody arrangements?

No Yes. A copy of the custodial order must be attached to the application.

Please state general conditions: _____

* List persons not permitted access to the child: _____

HEALTH CARE INFORMATION

BC Care Card Number: _____

Family Doctor/Clinic: _____ Office Phone: _____

**This is a Child Care Licensing requirement; please list a walk-in clinic if you do not have a regular family doctor.*

***IMMUNIZATION STATUS**

My child is up to date on all immunizations. **COPY OF IMMUNIZATION RECORD MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS PACKAGE- otherwise registration is incomplete and we will not be able to register your child.**

OR

I choose not to immunize my child and agree to temporarily withdraw my child from the program should the community be facing an epidemic.

GENERAL HEALTH INFORMATION:

Does your child have any health problems that we need to be aware of? Yes No

Overall Health: _____

Allergies (food/drug): _____

Dietary needs/restrictions: _____

Medications: _____

If your child takes medication during program hours you must also complete an “**Authorization to Administer Medication Form**” available at Esquimalt Recreation Centre or online.

Special needs and/or require extra support (behavioural, emotional, physical, intellectual, language, etc)?

Please specify support needs: _____

Please email or call Recreation Supervisor to discuss support needs prior to registration.

Seth.Jerome@esquimalt.ca or 250-412-8512

Acknowledgement & Consent

- 4. I hereby give permission for my child to go on out trips arranged by Esquimalt Preschool.
- 5. I understand that in the case of an accident or illness, Esquimalt Preschool will phone an ambulance and a staff person will accompany my child to the hospital. I give my authorization for emergency health care.
- 6. I understand that if I wish to withdraw my child’s enrollment I must put my request in writing 30 days prior to the last day of care.
- 7. I have read, initialed, and accept the policies and procedures outlined in the Parent Handbook.
- 8. I certify that the information given in this form is complete and true in every aspect, and that I am the legal guardian.
- 9. I understand that by enrolling my child for care, I am responsible for the total cost of care and accept all responsibility for payment of all fees.
- 10. I/We hereby authorize THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT to debit my/our account at the institution indicated or my credit card on the 1st business day of each month, for all incurred fees, while my child is registered in the Esquimalt Preschool Program.

Child’s Name: _____

PRINT PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE

Sign if you **DO NOT** wish to have pictures taken of your child in the program setting for Esquimalt Parks and Recreation publicity purposes. Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Personal information you provide on this form is collected under the authority of the Community Charter and will only be used for the purposes of the Esquimalt Parks and Recreation preschool program. Your personal information will not be released except in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Questions about the collection of your personal information may be referred to the Director of Corporate Services, Township of Esquimalt, 1229 Esquimalt Rd, Esquimalt BC V9A 3P1, 250-414-7135 or corporate.services@esquimalt.ca.

EMERGENCY CONTACT CARD 2021/2022

CHILD'S NAME: _____ **BIRTHDATE:** _____
Given Surname Month/Day/Year

GUARDIAN'S NAME: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____
Relationship to Child: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

GUARDIAN'S NAME: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____
Relationship to Child: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____
Relationship to Child: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____
Relationship to Child: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

Child's Family Doctor/Clinic: _____ **OFFICE PHONE:** _____

ALLERGIES: _____ **MEDICATIONS:** _____

CARE CARD #: _____

Emergency contacts must be different than parents/guardians

ALTERNATE PICK-UP LIST

Name & Relationship to Child

1. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

2. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

3. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

4. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

5. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

6. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____

7. _____ **HOME PHONE:** _____

CELL PHONE: _____ **WORK PHONE:** _____



I, _____, give permission for the above Emergency Contacts and Alternate Pick-ups to pick-up my child from the Esquimalt Preschool Program.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Back of Emergency Contact Card – Please leave blank



ESQUIMALT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM PARENT HANDBOOK

School Year Program 2021/2022

Welcome to Esquimalt Recreation Centre Preschool! We are pleased you are joining us and we have many opportunities for your child(ren).

OUR PHILOSOPHY

We are a team of caregivers who honour and value the relationship between a parent and their child. We respect a family's expertise when it comes to their child and believe that it is a privilege to be a part of your family's life. We believe that children need LOVE from their parents and teachers to grow and develop above everything else.

We work hard to create a safe, supportive and nurturing environment, keeping the best interests of the children in mind. We believe that for children to be successful they need to be exposed to rich programming based on the ECE Learning Framework:

1. Well being and Belonging
2. Exploration & Creativity
3. Languages & Literacy
4. Social Responsibility & Diversity

We welcome you into our Preschool Program, where we offer a positive environment, for children to be supported and guided by educators who care for one another and truly are passionate about their role they play in the lives of the children.

OUR GOALS

- To provide a safe and nurturing environment for children ages 30 months to 5 years
- To provide a healthy learning atmosphere where each child can feel safe, respected and valued while meeting their social and emotional developmental needs
- To work with each child's parents/guardians and with child & family related professionals to provide a holistic approach in meeting the child's needs
- To encourage each child to develop to his or her full potential

We wish to recognize and acknowledge the Songhees & Esquimalt Nations on whose traditional territory we live, we learn, and we do our work.

FIRST WEEK OF PRESCHOOL

An email will be sent in August to give you information regarding the first day as an “Open House”. This will be an introductory day for parents to remain with their children, help ease any separation anxiety or worries. It is also a great time to meet some of the other parents and ask any questions you may have of your instructors. Depending on potential future Provincial COVID-19 restrictions this open house may have to be modified.

SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM

Preschool (3-5yrs)

Allow your child to explore their creativity through an array of exciting activities. Our ECE certified staff embrace the Reggio Emilia approach which encourages exploration and focuses on the importance of community and self expression. Activities and projects are child-lead, based on their ideas and interests and the ECE Learning Framework. The day will include free play, arts & crafts, singing & dancing, story time, outdoor play and more. We strive to create a welcoming fun and safe environment for your little one to grow and develop their cognitive, physical and social skills at their own pace.

Kinderstart (4-5yrs)

This program is designed to enhance and develop those skills needed in preparation for Kindergarten. Kinderstart is the next step in developing kindergarten readiness skills in a wide spectrum including social & emotional maturity, language and literacies skills, even setting routines. Children will learn through exploration and play, contributing to the development of their fine and gross motor skills. Daily activities may include arts & crafts, outdoor play, singing, dancing, cooking and more! This program is designed for children entering kindergarten the following year. **Children must be 4 years of age by Dec 31, 2021.**

Fantastique Fridays! (3.5-5yrs)

Extend your week with this terrific Friday class. Your child will be introduced to the French language through songs, stories and rhymes. Our ECE Instructors will chose monthly themes inspired by the interests of the group and may include, cooking, seasons, space, friendships and more . Each class will include free play, art activities and circle time with a focus on fun and beginner French. Children must be 3.5 yrs at the start of the program in September.

Preschool Readiness:

When you are determining if your child is ready for preschool please consider these factors:

1. Can my child happily say good bye with a quick hug and kiss at the door?
2. Is my child still getting sleepy late in the morning or do they still take a morning nap?
3. Is my child able to go to the bathroom without help of wiping, washing hands pulling up and down pants?
4. Is my child overly emotional or struggle with transitions?
5. For the afternoon program – Is my child still full of energy in the afternoon or do they nap or get very tired during this time?

Transitions:

Coming to Preschool is a big step in your child’s development and the first steps towards more independence. As a caregiver please work towards quick good byes at the door. This could be a little hug or kiss and a wave while the parents are at the door signing in. This needs to be initiated by the parent and not the preschool teachers.

Importance of Routines:

Children need predictability and routine. It helps them to feel stable, safe and in control. Setting a routine before preschool is just as important as the Preschool routine. This includes a good night’s sleep, and a morning routine at home before school so that they are physically and emotionally ready for the day at preschool.

PRECHOOL EXPECTATIONS:

Please find below the “Preschool Expectations.” These are guidelines for expected behaviour while participating in our programs. Please take the time to read the rules and discuss them with your child. We also value that children need to take responsibility and be held accountable for their behaviour.

At Preschool our goal/expectations for participants, staff, and parents will:

- 1. Stay Safe:** be aware of your surroundings and how your actions impact those around you and yourself (e.g. use walking feet, have a calm body, keep hands to ourselves, wear weather appropriate clothing, eat healthy snacks).
- 2. Be Respectful:** to your friends, teachers, the environment and yourselves (e.g. listen to others, problem solve with words, talk calmly, take turns, share, look at nature, take a break from the group when you need to).
- 3. Have Fun:** have a positive attitude and enjoy the activities available to you (e.g. play safe, include your friends, suggest activities to the teachers, be creative).
- 4. Try Our Best:** try new activities and problem solving before asking a teacher for help (e.g. ask friends for help, be patient, encourage friends in a new activity, keep your body calm with 3 deep breaths).

Bathroom & Toileting:

All children **must** be toilet trained by the start of preschool. We understand that accidents happen, please ensure your child has a change of clothes packed each day in their back packs. It is important to note that staff can not help with actual toileting like wiping. Consider preparing your children to be able to pull pants up and down, wipe, flush toilet and wash hands. These are easy things to practice at home!

Snacks & Drinks:

1. Please bring a healthy snack and water bottle to program each day.
2. Possible sugary snacks will only be provided on special occasions, such as birthdays and holidays.
Parents/guardians please do not to send candy, chocolate bars, soft drinks, gum, etc.

3. We will never force children to consume any food or drink.
4. Safe drinking water will always be available to children at all times. We ask that you do **NOT** send any juice boxes as we see them often wasted or children fill up on juice and have no room left for a healthy snack.

Clothing & Items Needed Daily:

Children will be playing inside and outside each day. Please dress appropriately for the weather and for preschool. Expect children to get dirty! Here is a list for items needed for the year.

Indoors:

- Indoor shoes –must be able to run safely, please no dress shoes
- One complete change of clothes (labelled) for classroom.
- Healthy snack
- Water bottle (No juice boxes)

Cold or Rainy Days:

- Winter or Rain coat
- Wind or Rain pants
- Rubber boots
- Winter hat
- 2 pairs of gloves (one to wear, one for the bag)

Hot Sunny Days Outdoors:

- Water bottle
- Sun hat (that has a peak to provide shade for the face)
- Sunscreen – please put this on before you come, small bottle for reapplying (**we will not share sunscreen due to allergies**)

***PLEASE NO SANDALS, CROCS or DRESS SHOES (Mary Janes) or OPEN TOED SHOES**

What to Expect: A Typical Day

9:00am – Greetings & free play, one-on-one time with the teacher – arts and crafts.

10- 10:15 am- clean up and getting ready for circle time

10:20 - circle time, group activities

10:45 – snack

11:00- quiet book time or themed activity stations

11:15-11:30 – story time/music, getting ready for outside time.

11:30-11:55 – outside play

12:00- pick-up time, farewell

****Schedule subject to change.**

Last Updated: April 2021

Field Trips

We do take field trips through out the school year. Most of these trips are walking, however we do take 1 -2 trips per year that will require parent participation and drivers. We may assist with helping those parents & students find a ride with other parents. Should you chose not to attend the field trip, we **do not refund for missed trips.**

PROVIDING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Staffing Levels

There is an on-site manager and ECE licensed staff for all Preschool Programs. The staff to child ratio is 1:10, with a maximum of 20 participants. All Esquimalt Preschool staff must meet the following criteria:

- ECE License to Practice – head teacher
- ECE Assistant License to Practice – assistant teacher
- First Aid & CPR C certification
- Criminal Record Check

Licenses & Inspections

Esquimalt Parks & Recreation Staff are committed to providing quality leadership and care for all children involved in licensed care programs. All rooms are licensed by the Island Health and are regularly inspected by licensing officers. The Esquimalt Fire Department has inspected and approved all sites and there are monthly fire drills.

Accidents

In case of an emergency, the staff will contact parents/guardians. If the parents/guardian cannot be located, the staff will attempt to locate an alternate contact to take the child to the doctor/hospital/home. If the incident is serious and requires calling Police/Fire/Ambulance they will be called first, the child's health and safety will be the priority. We will then notify parents/alternates as soon as reasonably possible.

Emergency Situations

Preschool Staff are trained to follow Esquimalt Parks & Recreation Emergency Procedures during emergency situations such as fire and earthquake. Emergency Evacuation Procedures are posted in the Centre. Fire drills are conducted monthly. Please note that programs are equipped with cell phones and staff will attempt to contact parents/guardians during/after an emergency situation.

Missing Children Policy

Child abduction is a serious problem that concerns everyone. If a child is missing, program staff will immediately follow the procedures listed below:

- 1) Speak with staff and children to find where child was last seen playing or going.

- 2) Thoroughly check the location and surrounding area.
- 3) Gather the entire group together and do a head count and role call, the group stays together until the child is located.
- 4) Head count again and seek any information from the group (ie: gone to the bathroom, walked away crying, left with parent/adult).
- 5) Repeat 1-4. If still not found, call 911 (police) and clearly say:
 - a) This is (your name) from the Esquimalt Recreation Centre.
 - b) We are (location).
 - c) A child is missing (give description of child and steps taken to search for child)
 - d) The cell number is: (number)
 - e) Follow directions of operator.
- 6) Call Supervisor.

Absence Notification

If your child will be absent from the Preschool Program:

- General illness: no need to contact program staff.
- Communicable Disease, such as Chicken Pox, Hand Foot & Mouth Disease, Pink Eye, Head Lice & Fifth's Disease: please call the Recreation Programmer at 250-412-8506.
- Extended Vacation: if your child will be absent for more than one week, please notify Preschool staff.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Statutory Holidays

All Preschool Programs are cancelled on statutory holidays.

Other School Closures

In the event of facility closures due to strikes, weather or other imposed causes outside the control of Esquimalt Parks & Recreation, reimbursement of fees will apply if the program does not operate. If the Elementary Schools close (snow days) then we will also be closed. Refunds would then be issued.

****School Year Program Calendar Dates for 2021-2022**

Preschool Opens	Monday September 13, 2021
STAT – Thanksgiving	Monday, October 11, 2021
Remembrance Day	Thursday November 11, 2021
Winter Break	Monday, December 20, 2021- Monday January 3, 2022
STAT – BC Family Day	Monday, February 21, 2022
Spring Break	Monday, March 21 – Friday April 1, 2022
STAT – Good Friday	Friday, April 15, 2022
STAT – Easter Monday	Monday, April 18, 2022
STAT – Victoria Day	Monday, May 23, 2022
Last day of Preschool	TBD – (~ 3rd week of June)

** These dates are based on School District 61 proposed calendar for the school year 2021-2022. You will be given a final calendar with important date information at the beginning of Preschool in September 2021.

ACTIVITY CALENDAR/NEWSLETTER

A monthly activity calendar will be handed out to parents/caregivers at the beginning of each month. This handout will outline the month’s daily activities and reminders to parents.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

To be accepted & registered for the preschool program you must complete and return:

- Registration Form (especially medical information, walk in clinic or doctor)**
- Immunization Record – new one each year required by Licensing**
- Pre-Authorized method of Payment Plan form**
- Signed form confirming you have received and read a copy of the Parent Hand Book**
- Not Immunized – please ensure you have checked the Not Immunized box and understand the information listed beside it.**

PAYMENT & FEES:

Post-dated monthly payments are due at the time of registration by completing the Pre-Authorized Debit Plan Agreement form. A NON-REFUNDABLE Registration Processing Fee of \$25 per family is required upon registration. Those applying for subsidy are still required to pay this fee.

Monthly fees are based on the number of actual school days per month.

Fee Schedule

Mon/Wed Class	9:00am-12:00pm	\$20/day for 10 months
Tue/Thu Class	9:00am-12:00pm	\$20/day for 10 months
Kinderstart M/W/F	12:30-3:00pm	\$16/day for 10 months
Fantastic Fridays	9:00am-12:00pm	\$18/day for 10 months
Late Pick Up		\$5 for every 5 minutes
NSF Payments		\$20
Registration Processing Fee (School Year Program)		\$30

Please keep all receipts for income tax purposes and for proof of payment in case problems occur (i.e. computer/human error etc.).

Affordable Child Care Benefit (Subsidy)

Post-dated payments (EFT or Credit Card) are required at time of registration. Once authorization has been received from Child Care Subsidy, you will be notified with the new amounts owing as your parent portion. Please apply as soon as possible as there is always a delay and it can take up to 3 months to be authorized. The form required for applying for the Child Care Benefit for Preschool can be picked up at Reception.

Withdraws & Refunds

Please provide 30 days notice in writing. Verbal notification to staff is not sufficient notice. Once notification has been received the next months fees will be prorated based on the 30 days and future post-dated payments will be cancelled.

No refunds or credits are given for days absent due to illnesses, appointments, extra curricular activities, visiting friends, vacations, missed field trips etc. In the case of extended illness, please contract the Programmer for further information.

Dishonored Payment

Payments returned NSF will be subject to a \$20 NSF fee. Replacement of the payment will be due immediately by cash, certified cheque or debit/credit card. No more than two NSF payments will be allowed. If two payments have been returned NSF, all subsequent payments must be made by an alternative payment method.

Delinquent Account

If an account is more than two months or \$400 in arrears, you will be notified by letter and the following process will take place:

- 50% of the total balance is due within two weeks from the date of the letter. Failure to do so will result in refusal of childcare service.
- A payment plan for the remaining balance will need to be discussed with Regan Pemberton 250-412-8506 immediately. Failure to do so will result in refusal of childcare service.
- If payment is not received, no future payment plan made, or there is no response from the parent/guardian acknowledging the debt, childcare service will stop immediately. The account will be forwarded to the finance department of the Township of Esquimalt for further collection proceedings.
- All outstanding fees must be paid in full before the child(ren)/siblings may be placed on the waitlist or permitted to re-join the program.

Waitlist Policy

If a space becomes available for your child you will be emailed the information and you will have 48 hours to respond before we remove your child’s name from the waitlist. Response **must** be completed in writing.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Attendance

To prevent any “lost child” concerns it is imperative that parents sign their child in and out of program each day.

Illness

Esquimalt Parks & Recreation is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment. Due to COVID-19 we ask that parents perform daily health checks on their child to ensure that they are not presenting any new symptoms of illness. If your child appears to be ill, please consult the Esquimalt OSC & Preschool - Health Check below

Esquimalt OSC & Preschool Health Check	
Symptoms	What to Do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever (above 38 C) • Cough • Loss of sense of smell or taste • Chills • Difficulty Breathing 	<p>If 1 or more of these symptoms present, get child tested and stay home</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sore Throat • Loss of appetite • Headache • Body Aches • Extreme fatigue or tiredness • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea 	<p>If 1 of these symptoms present, keep child home until they feel better</p> <p>If 2 or more of these symptoms present, keep child home and wait 24 hours to see if they feel better. Get child tested if they aren’t better after 24 hours</p>
<p>If your child is a close contact of someone who has COVID-19 or is getting tested for COVID-19 Get your child tested and stay home</p>	
<p>If you are ever unsure about whether or not to send your child to OSC, call 811 and tell them what is going on</p>	

If a COVID-19 test is recommended but not done, self-isolate for 10 days after the onset of symptoms and return when the child is well enough to participate.

If there is a member of a child’s household that is recommended to take a COVID-19 test but doesn’t then that child must also self-isolate for 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended, children may return when well enough to participate (see “Returning to OSC/Preschool” below).

Staying Home When Sick and When New Symptoms Develop

Staying home when sick is one of the most important ways to reduce the spread of communicable diseases, including COVID-19. This is why it is important for anyone who is sick

to stay home. Children who are experiencing symptoms of a previously diagnosed health condition do not need to stay home and are not required to provide a doctor's note to attend, but we do ask that guardians communicate these conditions to staff before sending the child. Asymptomatic children may still attend Preschool if a member of their household develops new symptoms of illness.

If Children Become Sick at Preschool

Staff will go through the **Esquimalt OSC & Preschool – Health Check** with the sick child. If it is found that the child has any of the symptoms on this table, then staff will be in touch with the child's parents. Parents will be asked if the symptoms present have already been addressed by the parents or a primary care provider. If these are new symptoms or symptoms that have worsened, then parents will be asked to pick their child up. If these are symptoms that are improving or have been cleared by a primary care provider, the child will be allowed to stay at OSC/Preschool. If it is determined that the child will need to be sent home. The sick child will be separated from the rest of the group in a quiet and supervised location for them to rest until they can be picked up.

Returning to Preschool

Children may return to Preschool once they are well enough to participate. Children are permitted to return to Preschool with mild symptoms of illness remaining (ie Runny nose, nagging cough, sore throat, etc), in line with the guidance in this document. This is to ensure children are not kept out of Preschool for longer than necessary. A doctor's note to confirm the health status of any individual is not required unless needed to support medical accommodation as per usual practices.

Medication

If your child requires the administration of medication during program time, it is the parent/guardian responsibility to deliver any medication and administration instructions directly to the head teacher. A "Permission to Administer Medication Form" must be completed.

Epi-Pens & Inhalers

A completed Emergency Medication Care Plan must be submitted with this application. The child is responsible for carrying the epi-pen/inhaler at all times. Children will not be accepted into the program with an expired epi-pen/inhaler. In the case that epi-pen/inhaler is forgotten, child must accompany parent while it is being retrieved.

Clothing Requirements and Lost/Found

Children will be outdoors every day. Ensure your child is appropriately dressed or supplied with indoor/outdoor clothing, a jacket is required from Oct to April. The Lost & Found table is located at the entrance to the Preschool room, please check for your child's belongings regularly.

Items from Home

Children are asked to keep their personal toys at home. In our experience toys get lost or could cause conflicts amongst the children over sharing these items. There may be an occasion in which the teachers will ask children to share a toy from home, please encourage children to bring in a toy just on those occasions. If a toy does make its way into their bags, we will ask that it please stay in their cubby area. The Preschool Program is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken toys and articles that are brought to program.

Pick Up Procedure

When a child is picked up the parent/guardian/alternate is responsible for signing out and ensuring a staff member is made aware that the child is being picked-up from the program. Staff will require **photo identification** from anyone picking up a child whom they have not previously met. This includes parents, older siblings, babysitters or anyone else on the authorized pick up list.

Late Pick Up

If the parent/guardian has not picked up the child within 10 minutes of the end of the program, staff will try to contact the parent/guardian. If unable to make contact, staff will make all attempts to contact an alternative contact person to pick-up the child. If all authorized adults are unavailable and the parent/guardian has not contacted the Preschool program within 30 minutes of the end of the program, preschool staff will notify the Ministry for Children and Family Development. If late pick up is an ongoing problem, childcare service may be terminated.

Unauthorized Pick Up

Children will not be permitted to leave the Centre with anyone who is not named as a responsible alternate person on the pick-up list unless Preschool staff have **expressed permission in writing from the legal guardian** to release the child into their custody. If an unauthorized person arrives to pick up a child, the child will not be released. Preschool staff will speak to the individual and explain the policy that children will not be released without written authorization from the parent/guardian. If difficulties arise, all reasonable efforts will be made to ensure the safety of the child and the other children (CCLR 50). If necessary, the police will be called for assistance.

Alleged Impaired Pick Up

It is Preschool staff responsibility, to the extent it is possible, **not to release a child to an authorized person who is unable to adequately care for a child**. If Preschool staff believes a child to be at risk and feel comfortable in approaching the individual, they will offer to call an authorized alternate to pick up the person and child, or offer to call a taxi to pick them both up. If the person is driving a vehicle, Preschool staff will explain that they are obligated to ensure the safety and well-being of the child. If the presumed impaired person chooses to get in the car with or without the child, Preschool staff will immediately notify the police and provide a description of the car and geographic vicinity. If Preschool staff believe the child is in need of protection, they will call the Ministry for Children and Family Development.

Custody & Related Court Orders

If a custody or court order exists, a copy of the order needs to be placed in the child's file. The parent/guardian is responsible for providing accurate and up to date information concerning legal guardianship of the child. Without a custody or court order on file, Preschool staff cannot deny access to the non-enrolling parent. If the non-enrolling parent is not listed on the authorized pick up list, the policy on unauthorized persons will be implemented.

Behavioural Guidance Policy

Our environment helps foster social development and self-esteem. Our educators work collaboratively as a team to encourage appropriate behaviours. When a child is struggling with a behavior our educators address the behaviour in a calm and personal manner. Patience and repetition of expectations will help support the child in finding a positive way of dealing with the situation. Allowing children to experience natural consequences helps them learn problem solving and experience cause and effect.

The Esquimalt Preschool Program will however also follow the recommended discipline guidelines as set out by the Island Health. The purpose of guidance and discipline in this centre is to provide a safe and healthy environment in which every child can feel safe, respected and valued.

1. Guidance and discipline is consistent and is based on individual needs and development. We strive to promote self-discipline by using positive reinforcement techniques to help the child control or change his/her behaviour.
2. The techniques we use include verbal reminders such as "walking feet" or "inside voices"; separating two or more peers; removal from the activity or room; practice expected behaviour such as walking quietly in the hall; time with a different adult in another room; loss of an item, activity, or privilege; time out from the activity; physical guidance such as leading a child to their chair to clean up after snack; and physical holding which is used only when a child's safety is in immediate danger, such as stepping into the road.
3. Children will never be subjected to harsh treatment of any kind such as shaking, striking or spanking. There will be no harsh or belittling language used at any time. Physical punishment or withholding food will never be used as a means of discipline.
4. The following behaviours are not acceptable in the Preschool Program and all incidents will be documented with a Behaviour Incident Report: physical aggression, self injury, disruption/tantrums, inappropriate language, verbal aggression, non-compliance, social withdrawal/isolation, running away, property damage, unsafe behaviours. Parents will be notified by phone or at pick up time. Parents may request a copy of the report.
5. If a child/parent/guardian/alternate does not respect the Preschool Expectations, an incident report will be written and the procedure will be as follows: non-applicable, talk with child, contact family, parent meeting, arrange behavioural consultation, reduce hours in program, early pick-up, and termination of care.
6. The Preschool program reserves the right to suspend or terminate childcare service at any time, including when:

Last Updated: April 2021

1. An incident is considered severe, such as threatening to injure another person, purposefully injuring another peer or adult, and running away from the programs site or boundaries and refusing to return.
2. The Preschool program has implemented all reasonable program modifications and strategies to support the child, and the frequency and level of challenging behaviour continues to escalate.

Children Requiring Extra Support

We are a facility that would like to adapt our program for children with special needs (including physical, mental, emotional, behavioural, developmental, or health needs). Parents/Guardians of children with known special needs must disclose and discuss their child's needs with the Recreation Programmer prior to enrollment. **Failure to do so may result in termination of services.**

If a child has special needs, or subsequently develops special needs, Esquimalt Preschool, in consultation with the parents, will develop an Individual Care Plan ("ICP") for the child that ensures the health, safety and well-being of the child, other children, and staff.

If Esquimalt Preschool, in consulting with the parents in making the ICP or after implementing the ICP, determines that the child's needs cannot be met in light of the Centre's obligations to all children in the program and its staff, Esquimalt Preschool may decline to enroll or continue the enrolment of the child.

** Special needs include children with OR without a diagnoses, but are experiencing difficulty with emotional, behavioural, developmental, or health needs.

COVID-19 Operating Plan

Conduct Daily Self-Assessments

As stated earlier in the **Illness** section of the handbook, Parents/guardians must assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease using the "Esquimalt OSC & Preschool Health Check".

Personal Masks

Whenever parents/guardians enter the Recreation Centre, they are required to wear a mask. We also ask that parents/guardians wear masks in any other situation where physical distancing of 2 meters cannot be maintained.

Handwashing

- Children will wash their hands upon arrival (hand sanitizer).
- Children will have access to handwashing frequently through out the day.

Last Updated: April 2021

- Handwashing will be expected (soap & water or hand sanitizer) prior to eating, after eating, after coughing or sneezing, or when visibly dirty.

Physical Contact & Physical Distancing

- Children will be encouraged to maintain physical distancing, with more emphasis on no physical contact (as recommended by Island Health Child Licensing standards and the Provincial Health Officer)
- OSC staff will minimize indoor intergroup interactions as much as possible
- Adults dropping off/picking children outside are encouraged to wear masks. Adults dropping off/picking up children indoors MUST wear a mask.

Cleaning Protocols

- High touch areas will be cleaned at least 3 times per day All equipment will be disinfected after use
- Before commencing a game with a shared piece of equipment, children will wash their hands before and after use, and all equipment will be disinfected

Supplies & Equipment

- All “soft” items including rugs, dress up clothing, stuffies, etc. have been removed from program areas.
- Hard books that are easily cleaned will be permitted
- Clean and dirty bins for equipment will be available to ensure toys are frequently sanitized
- All shared equipment will be sanitized after use and all children will be required to sanitize hands before and after using equipment

Items from Home

- Please do not send toys, stuffies, electronics, Pokémon cards, and personal items of value

Assumption of Risk

We at the Township of Esquimalt respond to the direction from our public health officials to first close our facilities and cease offering services. We are now responding to the direction of our public health officials and Child Licensing to reopen our facilities and offer services to our community cautiously, with the safety of our staff and community being our priority. COVID-19 remains a worldwide pandemic and a threat to our local health and safety. We know the following (this list is not intended to be exhaustive):

1. The infectious agent, SARS-CoV-2, has caused community transmission of a serious communicable and potentially fatal disease known as COVID-19 amongst the population of the Province of British Columbia;
2. Our public health officials have determined this constitutes a regional event as defined in section 51 of the *Public Health Act*;
3. A person infected with SARS-CoV-2 can infect other people with whom the infected person comes into contact with; and
4. The gathering of people in close contact with one another can promote the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and increase the number of people who develop COVID-19.

We cannot be certain that a person (of any age) will not contract SARS-CoV-2 at one of our facilities and/or while participating in one of our programs, but we have taken the steps required to develop our COVID-19 Safety Plan. We have also developed COVID-19 policies and procedures, shared through this correspondence, and are available for your review on our website. We have implemented our COVID-19 Safety Plan and will be applying our policies and procedures, but the risk remains that a COVID-19 outbreak could occur despite our best efforts.

It is vital that no person who feels sick in any way visit any of our facilities and/or utilize any of our services. We do not employ health professionals and do not screen for potential illness. It is also vital that no person bring a child to any of our facilities if the child is feeling unwell or showing any symptoms of illness. Again, we do not screen for same.

For Preschool and our other programs for children, we will not be enforcing physical distancing amongst the children. We will emphasize hygiene and provide for handwashing as children begin and end their days in our programs. However, it is vital that children be permitted to play and this includes games where there will be touching (such as tag) and use of playground equipment. Most or all activities will take place outdoors.

It is vital that any person who believes that they may have become ill or their child may have become ill within 14 days of visiting one of our facilities and/or while taking part in one of our programs report this immediately to us by contacting Seth Jerome at seth.jerome@esquimalt.ca or 250.412.8512 and seek appropriate medical attention by first calling 8-1-1. We will share personal information for the purposes of contact tracing if the need arises. To attend our

facilities and/or take part in our programs and/or send a child to same, you must consent to the same.

Please do not allow your child to participate in any of our activities or programs if your child is displaying symptoms for which they should be staying home for according to our “Esquimalt OSC & Preschool Health Check”.

Please note: If your child is displaying symptoms of illness, they will be asked not to participate.

Lastly, it is vital that we all be calm and compassionate throughout this pandemic. Any person who exhibits any aggression towards our staff or any other person in one of our facilities and/or programs will be asked to leave and not return.

Acknowledgment:

1. I/we have read, understand and agree to the Assumption of Risk and above policies.
2. I/we have reviewed the Assumption of Risk with my/our child and have instructed our child to listen to and follow the instructions provided.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

IS YOUR FORM COMPLETE?

Please ensure this application form is completed in full, the following information **MUST** be attached to this application package:

- ***Doctor Information & Phone Number** -name of Walk in Clinic if no doctor, this is a Licensing requirement, chose most frequented Walk In Clinic if necessary. **DO NOT LEAVE THAT AREA BLANK.**
- Medical Care Card Number
- **Immunization Record** (unless not immunized)
- Contact and Emergency Contact name and numbers
- Everything is signed and completed including Parent Handbook initialed on each page.

Thank-you for choosing Esquimalt Preschool!

