

Policy 23. Special Circumstances

23.1. Custody

- In the event where a parent has the sole custody of the child, a copy of the court order must be provided to the Director. Only then can staff members refuse to release the child into the care of the other parent. It is the responsibility of the parent to provide SCD in writing with any changes to the information given at the time of registration.

23.2. Child Abuse or Neglect

- Child abuse and neglect is not tolerated. If workers have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child, including but not limited to physical, emotional, or sexual abuse or neglect, they are required by law to report this to the Department of Social Services per the The Child and Family Services Act.
- In a suspected case of child abuse or neglect, staff members must inform Social Services of the situation immediately by calling 1-888-99-ABUSE (1-888-992-2873), in province calls only, or After Hours Emergency Services at 1-800-442-9799. Staff will be relieved from their classroom by another worker to call Social Services in private. Staff will then follow the direction of Social Services. Staff will not discuss their phone call with any other educators and confidentiality will be followed.
- It is the responsibility of the Director to inform Early-Learning licensing staff a suspected abuse allegation has been made to Social Services.
- All Staff members are encouraged to document any incidents that they may feel indicate a child at the centre is at risk.

23.3. Impaired Guardian

- In the event that the person picking up the child is intoxicated or indicates a potential threat to the child, staff members will immediately contact an alternate emergency person listed on the child's file and request that the emergency contact pick up the child.
- Safe transportation to and from the daycare is important for all children. If staff suspects anyone who has dropped off or picked up a child while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the staff will offer the caregiver to call someone else to assist with pick up. If caregiver refuses, the staff shall immediately notify the RCMP and Child Protection of this unsafe and illegal practice.
- Staff will ensure that the director is informed of any such calls and will maintain confidentiality around such situations

23.4. Diapering and Toilet Learning

- It is the expectation that families will initiate toilet learning prior to attendance at SCD or, in the case of young toddlers, during a period away from the centre (e.g., long weekend, vacation).

This allows consistency for an easier transition for the child.

- Staff will work with families to assist with toilet learning using their professional best discretion. Parents are expected to initiate this discussion when they feel their child is ready.
- Families must provide one week's supply of diapers at the beginning of each week
 - o Cloth diapers are permitted but will not be washed on-site. Parents must supply a wet-bag for used diapers which is taken home daily.

23.5. Topical Products and Detergents

- SCD will use Health Canada approved products (e.g., sunscreen, bug spray, laundry detergent, etc.)
- If families prefer that products are not used on their children or to provide their own products, they are responsible for providing alternative products or safe-guards