

# First Day of School Checklist

- 2 sippy cups (for milk and water) to be left at the centre - please note that there are no bottles permitted in this room.
- Diapers, wipes, and cream if necessary
- Two complete sets of extra clothes in a large Ziplock bag
- Proper running shoes for daily activities (baby shoes do not offer enough support at this age)
- Clothing and hat for outdoor play (suitable for the weather)
- Family photo to post in the classroom.
- Sunscreen
- The centre provides and launders children's blankets and sheets used at sleep time.



Please label  
your child's  
belongings!

## We use HiMama!

**HiMama** is an online communication tool where a child's milestones and activities are recorded by our educators to document activities and updates of your child's day. Everything from naps to snacks, it will provide you with a complete history of your child's experience in our program with photos stored safely and securely in a journal format. You will receive updates on your child's activities to your email and smartphone **at the end of each day.**

# Meeting Your Child's Teachers

Your child's ECE teachers will rotate between three different shifts (early, middle, and late) and their names are:

Miss Beatrice

Miss Dilumni

Miss Felicia



## McNicoll Avenue Child Care Program

Located in the former  
McNicoll Avenue Public School  
155 McNicoll Avenue  
North York, ON  
M2H 2C1

Phone: 416-499-9743

Fax: 416-913-9743

Toddler room email:

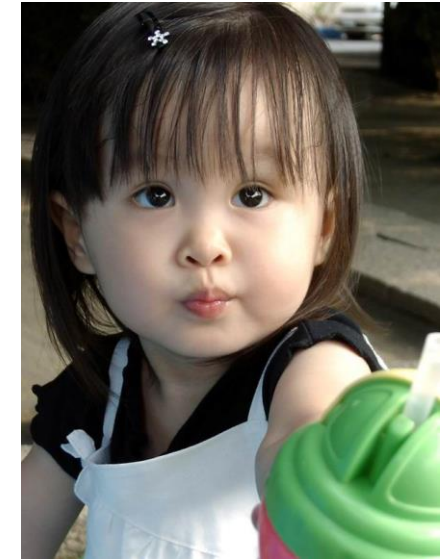
[toddlerroom@mcnicollchildcare.com](mailto:toddlerroom@mcnicollchildcare.com)

While staff make every effort to respond to your email concerns, please recognize that their classroom and routines are not set up for frequent email check-ins and that email responses are limited. If you have an urgent concern, please call or email Lynn directly at

Director's email: [lynnlewis@mcnicollchildcare.com](mailto:lynnlewis@mcnicollchildcare.com)

# Preparing Your Toddler for Child Care

~ Learning to Play, Playing to Learn ~



Welcome to **McNicoll Avenue Child Care Program!**  
We are excited that you have decided to become a  
part of our growing family.

At McNicoll, we use a play-based, child-directed  
curriculum to promote a love of learning in all its  
forms!

Please feel free to contact us at:

**416-499-9743**

## Ages and Ratios

Toddlers in this class typically range from 18 - 30 months, with a 1:5 staff-to-child ratio during regular programming hours, and reduced ratios of 1:8 are in effect during the arrival and departure of children and during the rest period in accordance with the CCEYA legislation.

We currently have three registered early childhood educators in the classroom. All our staff are required to have their current Standard First Aid Level C (Infant and Child CPR) and attend an annual refresher course.

## Activities and Developmental Basis

Through daily recorded observations, our planned activities are based on the children's strengths, interests, and needs. We provide a rich and interesting environment with opportunities to explore with all their senses and to practice their gross motor skills as they walk, run, climb, and play. We support and encourage early attempts at independence, competency, and autonomy by inviting the children to experiment and solve problems. Self-feeding, helping to tidy up, and beginning to dress themselves are appropriate goals, even though they will take time to practice prior to success. The process indicates they are moving toward independence.



In addition to these cognitive and physical skills, toddlers are also working on several socio-emotional skills. They are developing positive social skills and are still developing trust in the adults who care for them. It is important for parents and teachers to work together to support children through important events such as separation.

# Toddler Room Program

## Transitioning from Infant Care

Children and parents often become very attached to their infant teachers, as it is often your child's first exposure to a childcare environment. Many parents may wonder whether the toddler teachers will get to know their child as well as their infant teachers, due to the activity level of the room and the higher staff-to-child ratio. To this end, it is important to give yourself and your child time to "bond" with the new teachers and recognize that part of your child growing up means a greater amount of physical and emotional independence.

## Drop-off tips

Please ensure your child's success by bringing them each morning having eaten breakfast and wearing a clean diaper, so they are ready to start their busy Toddler Day!



A reminder also, to please fill out your child's **Daily Chart on paper** before dropping off your child to their room. By telling us your child's last meal, how long they slept and the time of their last diaper change, the staff are better prepared to meet your child's needs.



## What to Expect

Toddler rooms can be busy and bustling with children trying out their newly acquired skills of walking, climbing, and saying, "no". The toddler room is different from the infant room, and it should be! It means that your child is ready for more. For example:

- The ratio of adults to children and the total group size will be larger in the toddler room. As children increase in capability and independence, they do well with a slightly larger ratio and room to explore.
- Sometimes, non-verbal toddlers can use physical means (such as pushing or biting) to communicate. We work hard to avoid these accidents and use them as a learning opportunity for all involved.
- You may receive more notices of bumps and bruises. This is typically due to toddlers trying out their new movement skills and getting a few "boo-boos" in the normal process of development, and it is not reflective of a lack of supervision.

As with any transition, the more communication you can have with your child's new teachers during the transition, the better. Together we can acknowledge this wonderful process of "growing up"!

