

# Welcome to the EC&C

## TODDLER

### Welcome to West Vancouver Schools!

The West Vancouver Schools Early Childhood Education Centre will offer 24 spaces for toddlers. The centre has two specially designed rooms geared to toddler care for children between 18 and 36 months.

**Hours: 7:30 am to 5:30 pm**

Staff ratio of 1 caregiver to 4 toddlers

#### What is a Reggio-inspired toddler child care program?

A Reggio-inspired toddler child care program nurtures toddlers' curiosity, creativity, and growing independence in a warm and stimulating environment. The program values toddlers as capable learners and provides opportunities for them to explore, experiment, and connect with others.

Key features include:

- **Child-Led Exploration:** Activities are guided by toddlers' interests, allowing them to explore topics like colors, textures, and movement through hands-on, sensory-rich experiences.
- **Social Interaction:** Toddlers engage in group activities that promote collaboration, sharing, and communication skills.
- **Environment as the "Third Teacher":** Spaces are designed to inspire curiosity, with light, open-ended materials, and areas for active play, creativity, and quiet reflection.
- **Emergent Curriculum:** Educators observe and respond to children's interests, creating meaningful projects that evolve over time.
- **Documentation:** Toddlers' work, conversations, and progress are documented through photos, notes, and displays, showcasing their learning journey.
- **Family Partnership:** Families are involved in the program, contributing insights and celebrating their child's growth.



# *What does a typical day look like?*

## **A typical day for Toddlers includes:**

- **Arrival and Welcome:** Toddlers are greeted warmly, and Educators facilitate a smooth transition from home to the program.
- **Exploration Time:** Toddlers engage with open-ended materials like blocks, art supplies, or sensory bins, choosing activities based on their interests.
- **Group Time:** Activities like singing, dancing, or storytelling promote social connection and language development.
- **Outdoor Play:** Active play outdoors encourages gross motor skills, curiosity about nature, and teamwork.
- **Snack and Mealtimes:** Toddlers practice self-feeding at mealtimes, fostering independence and social interaction. All food is provided by families for their own child. Toddlers are able to eat and access their food as needed throughout the day.
- **Project Work:** Guided by children's interests, small group projects might involve painting, building, or exploring natural materials, encouraging creativity and problem-solving.
- **Rest Time:** Toddlers nap or rest in a calm, cozy environment, with Educators nearby to provide comfort as needed.
- **Afternoon Play:** Toddlers continue exploring through structured and unstructured activities, like dramatic play, puzzles, or music.
- **Reflection and Wrap-Up:** The day concludes with quiet activities and a review of the day's discoveries. Educators share observations and updates with families at pick-up time.