



NAVIGATING THE ENHANCED SUPPORTS SYSTEM FOR CHILD CARE



Establish Parent Relationships

Educators are responsible for:

- Seeking information and connecting with supports the family is already using during the application process.
- Initiating and sustaining positive relationships with parents and ensuring parents are true partners in monitoring child development and supporting their child's wellbeing.
- Communicating with parents regularly about their child's development and seeking their observations and suggestions as to how to plan, adapt and modify the child care environment.

Consider the Child Care Environment and Programming

Educators are responsible for:

- Participating in ongoing professional learning.
- Holistically observing and monitoring all children's development when planning programming and setting up the child care environment to meet the needs of all children at all levels of development.
- Utilizing the Cycle of Inquiry to actively engage in regular observation and reflection with parents, colleagues, Supervisors or Home Child Care Advisors to consider ways of responding and/or actions.



Seek Support from Enhanced Supports System Partners

A variety of enhanced support system partners are available to offer general consultation as educators consider the needs of the child care environment.

- Canadian Mental Health Association Waterloo Wellington: Mental Health and Behavioural Challenges.
- Early Years Professional Resource Centre, County of Wellington: Pedagogy, Resiliency, Promoting Holistic Development, Relationships and Connections, Environments and Questions about Behaviour.
- KidsAbility: Speech and Language, Occupational and/or Physical Therapy.
- Resource Consultant, County of Wellington: Growth and development, Milestones, Individual Support Plans for children, ESS system navigation, Links to Community Resources.

Apply for Enhanced Support Funding

Enhanced Support funding is available for child care programmes to provide:

- Enhanced Support Staff for Medical Conditions – children with medical conditions may have supports for the duration of their placement.
- Enhanced Support Staff for Temporary Assistance – approval is based on situation and severity of need.
- Special Equipment, devices and supplies.



Contact Here4Kids when an Assessment is Required

If, in consultation with the parent, an assessment is required for the child, request the parent to contact Here4Kids to begin the process. Continue to utilize the strategies listed above to holistically support all of the children in the child care environment.