

Playground

Early Learning and Care Assessment for Quality Improvement

	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	
	1 or 2	3	4 or 5	Score
1. Supervision of Children	 □ Staffing not in place to safely escort children to and from the playground and/or indoor gross motor play area □ Ratios not maintained on the playground and/or indoor gross motor play area □ Staff do not position themselves to ensure clear view of all playground and/or indoor gross motor play areas □ Staff do not scan the playground and/or indoor gross motor play area. 	 □ Staff are able to balance supervision with interactions □ Staff are aware of the numbers and location of children □ Staff react quickly to remedy unsafe conditions and/or situations. 	 □ Centre provides extra seasonal outdoor clothing □ Communication is accessible by use of cordless phone, child care cell phone, walkie talkie and/or intercom □ Time is scheduled daily to set up the playground prior to children having access to it □ Each age group has their own designated outdoor time. 	1 2 3 4 5

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	1 or 2	3	4 or 5	Score
2. Outdoor Play Space and Shade Areas	 □ One playground surface accessible □ Sensory materials and/or sand are not accessible □ Play space is not defined □ Outdoor play space is not in a state of good repair □ No shade is accessible on the playground □ Water source is not available. 	 □ Two playground surfaces accessible □ Sensory materials and/or sand accessible to children during entire outdoor play time □ Sand box covered when not in use □ Infants are provided with outdoor gross motor time □ Balance of shade and sunny areas □ Natural elements are in or beside the playground. 	 □ Playground includes seating area □ Third surface provided □ Incline surface accessible □ Each age group has their own designated play space □ Nature built furnishings and equipment □ Evidence that a garden and/or nature area is accessible □ Outdoor play space accessible in all weather conditions. 	1 2 3 4 5

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	1 or 2	3	4 or 5	Score
3. Physical Play Equipment	No balls are available Balls are not inflated No additional developmentally-appropriate physical play equipment is available.	Three or more balls are accessible Three or more additional developmentally-appropriate physical play equipment is accessible Staff set up physical play equipment to facilitate participation.	Three or more types of equipment accessible to foster balance, coordination and climbing skills Active lifestyle resources are accessible for families Community recreation resources are accessible to families.	1 2 3 4 5 5

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	1 or 2	3	4 or 5	Score
4. Learning Materials	 no 2 No learning materials accessible Insufficient amount of learning materials for the number of children wanting to use them Learning materials are not in good condition. 	☐ Three or more different types of learning materials accessible ☐ Learning materials reflect the interests of children ☐ Learning materials are developmentally-appropriate.	Three or more types of learning materials are accessible to explore nature Two or more learning areas are extended to the outdoor environment Two or more learning materials promote social and/or dramatic play.	1 2 3
				5

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5. Wheeled Toys	□ No wheeled toys available□ Wheeled toys are not in good condition	 One wheeled toy for every four children accessible Wheeled toys are developmentally-appropriate 	 □ Three or more types of wheeled toys are accessible □ Bike path or trail is accessible to children 	1
	Only one type of wheeled toy available.	☐ Two or more types of wheeled toys are accessible	☐ Bike safety resources are accessible to families.	2
		☐ One large winter toy for every four children is available.		3
				4
				5

	Does Not Meet Expectations	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations	
	1 or 2	3	4 or 5	Score
6. Outdoor Storage	No storage provided for outdoor equipment Outdoor equipment is stacked on top of each other in an unsafe manner Outdoor storage is not securely locked.	Designated storage provided for all outdoor equipment Storage is accessible all year round First aid kit is accessible outside.	Storage for outdoor equipment is located close to or on the playground Storage is organized Storage is labelled.	1 2 3 4 5