

April 2025 Newsletter

Making a difference in the lives of children and families since 1983!

April 1, 2025

Behaviour Basics with Aynsley Graham Part Three Highlights:

- **Visual calendars are awesome.** Children don't experience time the way adults do. This means that children rarely know what day it is, what they are doing that day and "how many sleeps" away a special day is. Visual calendars are kid friendly agendas, they use pictures, colors and limited information.
- **What is a task vs an expectation?** Tasks often get confused with "expectations". Expectations are vague ideas that children cannot consistently follow without proper guidance. Tasks are clearly defined acts that teach our children how we want them to behave.
- **Teaching feelings.** Children need us to teach them about feelings. Being able to identify what they are feeling, and then communicate that feeling, is a major skill!

The Week of the Young Child (WOYC)

The Week of the Young Child (WOYC) is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), focusing on the needs of young children and their families, while recognizing the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

This year, WOYC is occurring from April 5th to 11th. In 2025, this event promises to be more impactful and engaging than ever, offering a variety of activities and resources for educators, families, and communities.

The Week of the Young Child 2025 offers a wonderful opportunity to celebrate young children and the people who nurture their growth. By celebrating WOYC, you're contributing to a greater understanding and appreciation of early childhood education and its vital role in the community.

Similar to prior years, WOYC will focus on:

Music Monday: Celebrate the joy of music in early childhood education

Tasty Tuesday: Focus on nutrition and cooking with children

Work Together

Wednesday: Emphasize the importance of collaboration and teamwork

Artsy Thursday: Celebrate creativity and artistic expression

Family Friday: Strengthen family engagement and partnerships

Learn more about WOYC here: <https://www.naeyc.org/events/woyc>

Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ's)

During the months of April, May & June- families will receive an email with information & a link to complete an ASQ for their child if desired. Your child's Educator will also receive an opportunity to complete ASQ's for the children in their programs between the

ages of 1 month & 5 1/2 years old.

Why Is Screening Important?

"Screening young children is an effective, efficient way for professionals to check a child's development, help parents celebrate their child's milestones and know

what to look for next, and determine whether follow-up steps are needed."

Learn more about ASQ's here: <https://agesandstages.com/about-asq/for-parents/>





INNISFAIL & AREA FAMILY DAY HOME SOCIETY

— Established in 1983 —



Alberta
Approved
Family
Day Homes

Society News

Our office will be
closed April 18th
and 21st for Easter

Happy Easter and
a Joyful April
Fool's Day!!

Did you know Earth
Day is on April 22nd?

Consider joining the
1000 Hours Outside
Challenge:
[www.1000hoursout
side.com](http://www.1000hoursoutside.com)

In Person Educator Training Series:

Community of
Practice
Chat and Craft Night
April 14th, 2025
6:30pm

Storytelling
Creating felt boards
and story rocks to
enhance educator
story time
programming

Welcome to:

Sierra Maxwell
Springbrook

We are excited to
have you join our
team!

Notice:

New Parent
Agreements have
been emailed. Call us
if you did not receive
one.

Being A Good Co-Regulator ~ Excerpt from Aynsley Graham

Children are going to really struggle to do a task if they are not calm. If a child is dysregulated, the first thing that you need to do before they can do anything is co-regulate them.

As a co-regulator, you create emotional environments through your speech, tone, and body language. Be mindful of your response. Children make meaning of your behaviour. Noise, busyness, messiness, even exciting and joyful things can create an emotional energy that will make it difficult for children to be cooperative.

Don't wait until the child needs to be co-regulated, to co-regulate.

Plan regular breaks to connect and calm their bodies. Here are some ideas for co-regulation breaks:

- * Reading books
- * Bringing awareness to the body's feelings
- * Breathing - 4 in/5 out
- * Drumming/Music/Rhythm
- * Nature, take an outside break
- * Guided imagery - calm place exercise and oral story telling
- * Exercising
- * Eating or drinking something
- * Cuddles

Understanding a child's experiences brings their difficulties into focus and can give you a better understanding of the importance that you can play in building resilience. As child care educators, you are not simply "child care". You are partners in parenting.

REACH OUT

My name is Aynsley Graham, MSc. and I am a Behaviour Consultant. For more information on how I can support you and your classroom or family, please visit www.aynsleygraham.com

aynsleyrachelgraham@gmail.com

Email for a FREE 30 minute behaviour consultation!

March 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Subject: Important Changes to the Use of Personal Information

We want to inform you about updates to how your personal information is being used in Alberta's licensed child care system, starting April 1, 2025. These changes are designed to ensure your child's safety and well being. They will also improve financial accountability and transparency around how government funding is used.

On January 30, 2025, the Government of Alberta announced a new funding approach for early learning and child care. As part of this change, the Child Care Accountability Program (the Program) was introduced on March 3, 2025. The Program makes it possible to create a unique child care participant number (CCPN) for each child attending a licensed child care program. The CCPN will be used as a basis for government to pay child care providers for the children registered in their programs.

The benefits of the CCPN include:

- **More transparency:** Starting fall 2025, you will be able to see how much government funding is provided on your behalf to reduce your child care fees.
- **Enhanced communication:** The government will be able to contact you directly if there is a safety concern at your child's program.
- **Improved monitoring:** The CCPN will provide real-time data on the number of children in licensed child care. This up to date information helps the government make sure child care programs are meeting licensing requirements, including child-to-educator ratios.

To generate a CCPN, your child care provider will enter the following information into a secure provincial registration system called the Child Care Licensing Portal. This is the same information they collected from you when you enrolled your child:

- child's first and last name;
- child's date of birth;
- parent or guardian's first and last name;
- parent or guardian's phone number and email;
- type of program;
- enrollment start date; and
- monthly hours child is registered to attend.

As required by Alberta's *Early Learning and Child Care Act* and Regulation, licensed child care programs must securely share this information with the government. Your consent as parent or guardian is obtained by child care programs before submitting any details, in line with privacy laws.

No action is required from you to create the CCPN. You should have already provided this personal information to your child care provider to register your child, as well as your consent to share that information with the government.

If you have any questions, please refer to the enclosed frequently asked questions document, which also includes contact details if you need more information.

Thank you,

Child Care Administration Team

Frequently asked question:

Child Care Accountability Program and use of personal information: For parents and/or guardians

The Child Care Accountability Program, established in March 2025, helps fulfill the government's responsibility for the safety and well-being of children in licensed child care programs while ensuring Alberta's child care system is financially accountable. The Program allows for the creation of a Child Care Participant Number for every child in a licensed child care program, using information that parents/guardians already provide upon enrollment.

The following provides additional information for parents and/or guardians with children attending licensed child care in Alberta.

What is the Child Care Participant Number?

The Child Care Participant Number (CCPN) is much like a student number, and it will be created using personal information that is already collected by child care providers during the registration process and is available to the government through child care providers. The CCPN will be used as a basis for government to pay child care providers for the children registered in their programs.

CCPNs will help ensure the safety and well-being of children while improving financial accountability and transparency around how government funding is used.

What is changing?

The information parents provided to enroll their children in licensed child care programs will now be used to create a child care participant number (CCPN) for each child.

In the past, the government only accessed this personal information as needed, mainly for audits or to check if child care programs were following licensing requirements. For example, the government reviewed attendance records, which included children's names, to confirm past payments to child care programs or to ensure proper child-to-educator ratios.

Now, by creating a CCPN for all existing children, and any new children entering the child care system, the ministry will have this information right away. This will improve financial accountability and give real-time data on the number of children in licensed child care.

Why are you telling me about these changes to how my information is being used?

Protecting personal information is paramount, so we are keeping you up to date on how your personal information is being used in Alberta's licensed child care system. No action is required from you to create the CCPN.

Do child care programs need parent consent to share my information?

Child care programs collect personal information to enroll your child. When registering, they should ask for your consent to collect, use and share this information with the government to provide child care services. If you have any questions about this process, contact your child care provider.

The introduction of the CCPN does not change the requirement to collect, use or share personal information with the government.

Licensed child care programs have always needed parental consent to share information with the government as part of licensing and grant requirements. Providers must handle personal information responsibly and follow privacy laws, such as the *Personal Information Protection Act*.

What if a parent does not want to share their child's information for the Child Care Participant Number?

Licensed child care programs and the government collect personal information to help manage child care services. This information is protected under sections 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act* (FOIP).

Under the *Early Learning and Child Care Act* and Regulation, as well as the Affordability Grant Agreement, licensed child care programs must share information about enrolled children with the government. The introduction of the CCPN does not change this requirement.

If a parent or guardian does not consent to sharing their child's information with the government, their child care program will not receive funding for that child. Additionally, if the program cannot provide this information, they may be non-compliant with their licence and/or grant agreement.

Why is the parent's name and contact information needed for the Child Care Participant Number?

Parent/guardian information is a part of the personal information collected to enroll a child in child care services. Having this information allows the government to contact parents directly in the event of an emergency or when there are safety concerns at their child's program. In fall 2025, parents will also be able to view the funding provided on their behalf to reduce their child care fees.

My child does not receive government funding; will my child still need a Child Care Participant Number?

Yes, the CCPN is tied to the licensing requirements for all children attending a licensed child care program in Alberta, including out-of-school care programs.

How is the personal information of children and parents protected?

The Child Care Licensing Portal, which houses this personal information, has undergone both a Security Threat and Risk Assessment and a Privacy Risk Assessment, in collaboration with the Cybersecurity Division, Legal Services and Privacy Management Services. These assessments ensure that it meets the government's high standards for security and privacy, and that all personal information collected and used in accordance with all applicable acts and regulations.

All information entered into the Portal is encrypted both during transmission and at rest to ensure your data is protected. This encryption is completed using

industry best practices. The personal information entered into the Child Care Licensing Portal is never disclosed to third parties, including within the Government of Alberta, without the consent of the person or their guardian.

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

If you have more questions, please email childcare@gov.ab.ca with the subject line "Accountability Program".

April 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div data-bbox="142 462 634 646" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com</p>  </div>		1	2	3	4	5
6	<p>Advisory Board Meeting 7pm</p>	8	9	10	11	12
13	<p>Educator Chat & Craft Storytelling 6:30pm</p>	15	16	17	<p>Office Closed</p> <p>Good Friday</p>	19
<p>20</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Easter Monday</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Earth Day</p>	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</p>	<p>26</p> <p>RDP Changemakers in ECE: Building Connection, Community, and Capacity. Celebrating 50 years!</p>
27	28	29	30			

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com</p> 				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11  Mothers Day	12	13	14	15	16 Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day	17
18	19 Office Closed Victoria Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Month End Paperwork Due	28	29	30	31