

Parent Handbook

A family-friendly overview of Kidooland programs, routines, communication, and expectations

Where Curiosity Becomes Confidence

Welcome to Kidooland

Kidooland is a nurturing early learning and daycare centre where children are encouraged to explore, discover, create, and grow. Our program combines meaningful play, Montessori-inspired learning, emergent curriculum, and purposeful early academics in a safe, welcoming environment.

Centre Information

Address: 135 Carry Dr SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1B 3M6
Hours: Monday to Friday, 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Phone: 403-888-9506
Email: management@kidooland.ca
Planned closures: statutory holidays, Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve.

Our Programs

Toddler Daycare	19 months to under 3 years	Secure relationships, sensory play, language-rich routines, movement, and growing independence.
Full-Day Preschool	3-4 years	Purposeful play, early literacy, mathematics, science, art, outdoor learning, and practical life experiences.
Junior Kindergarten	4+ years	Phonics, early writing, mathematics, STEAM, critical thinking, communication, self-regulation, and school readiness.

Our Learning Approach

Our child-centred philosophy draws from Flight: Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework, emergent curriculum, Montessori principles, purposeful play, and current early childhood practices. Educators observe children's interests, prepare responsive environments, and balance child-led exploration with intentional teaching.

- Hands-on learning and open-ended exploration

- Montessori-inspired practical life experiences that build independence
- Early literacy, mathematics, science, and STEAM
- Creative arts, music, movement, and dramatic play
- Daily outdoor learning and active play, weather permitting
- Social-emotional learning, empathy, cooperation, and self-regulation

Daily Care and Routines

Predictable routines help children feel safe while remaining flexible enough to meet individual needs. Learning takes place throughout the day during play, meals, transitions, outdoor time, group experiences, and quiet moments.

- A supervised rest period is offered from approximately 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Quiet activities are available for children who do not sleep.
- Families provide meals and snacks. Educators support healthy habits, independence, and positive social experiences during mealtimes.
- Children participate in indoor and outdoor movement, fine-motor activities, sensory experiences, and age-appropriate self-help routines.
- Positive guidance focuses on empathy, modelling, problem-solving, consistent expectations, and teaching skills rather than punishment.

Health, Safety, and Supervision

- Qualified educators maintain active supervision and required staff-to-child ratios.
- Attendance and head counts are used during arrivals, departures, transitions, and outdoor play.
- Indoor and outdoor areas are checked regularly and arranged to support clear sightlines and safe participation.
- Staff follow written emergency procedures and complete regular drills.
- Staff and volunteers are screened according to applicable requirements, including criminal record and vulnerable sector checks where required.

Inclusion and Belonging

Every child deserves to feel welcomed, respected, represented, and supported. We work with families to understand each child's strengths, needs, culture, language, routines, and goals. Environments, materials, routines, and teaching strategies may be adapted so children can participate meaningfully alongside their peers.

Family Communication

Families are valued partners. Communication may include daily conversations, email, newsletters, learning stories, meetings, and other centre communication methods. Families are encouraged to share information, ask questions, provide feedback, and participate in their child's early learning experience.

Arrival, Departure, and Updates

- Only authorized individuals may pick up a child. Identification may be requested.
- Please notify the centre about changes to contact information, emergency contacts, health information, schedules, or authorized pickup persons.
- Families should inform the centre when a child will be absent or arriving later than expected.
- Important policy updates and required notices will be shared through centre communication methods and posted where families can review them.

Next Steps

Pre-registration is an expression of interest and does not guarantee placement. Kidooland will contact families to discuss availability, the appropriate program, a tour, and the remaining enrolment requirements.

Contact Kidooland

Questions are always welcome. Call **403-888-9506** or email **management@kidooland.ca**.