



Child Care Program: ESL, LINC, LBS

Funding from municipal, provincial and federal sources allow us to provide on-site child care so that families can attend English as a Second Language (ESL), Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) or Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS) classes. Child care is available for children aged six months to six years. The program prepares children for Junior and Senior Kindergarten and provides all the early learning activities in a quality early childhood education setting: i.e., enhancing the physical, cognitive, linguistic and social and emotional development of the child. As well, the OCDSB child care staff provides on-site child care at the City's Employment Resource Centres to enable Ontario Works recipient families to participate in and receive ongoing counselling and pre-employment support.

There is also a small grant for "working poor" families. That is, families not receiving OW benefits, but whose annual net income is less than \$25,000 per year.

An additional and separate funding amount (\$20,000 per year) is provided from The United Way (Success by Six) for the provision of parenting support for our families through the *Nobody's Perfect Parenting Skills Program* and The *Off to a Healthy Start* program.



The families of the children who participate in the program come from a wide range of multicultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Many are recently arrived newcomers to Canada. The number of children participating fluctuates each year. Throughout our programs, we can accommodate up to 350 children each year.

All but one of the ESL, LINC and LBS program locations provide child care support.



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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