

**Statement of Quality Indicators
For Choosing Quality Child Care
4C Child Care Unlimited**

Dear Parent,

As a parent you are your child's first and primary teacher. However, for those times when your child(ren) need to be left in the care of others, it is important that you carefully select a quality child care setting best suited to the needs of your child.

Quality child care is important in preparing your child(ren) for success in school and throughout their lifetime. A quality child care setting will provide social, emotional and educational opportunities for your children. When your children are in a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment, you as parents know they are getting the kind of care children need to be happy, healthy and productive individuals.

When searching for child care be sure and visit the child care programs with your child(ren). Ask questions such as how many children are there for each adult caregiver present. There should be one adult for four infants, one adult for up to five toddlers (12 to 24 months), one adult for up to six toddlers ages 2-3 years, and one adult for up to ten 4-5 year olds. Ask questions about the size of the groups as very young infants and toddlers flourish in a smaller more intimate setting. Ask about staff turn over as having a consistent caregiver is critical for your child to form attachments. As you observe the program and the interactions between the children and the caregivers try to consider the environment from the child's perspective. Do the children and the caregivers get along well with each other? Inquire as to the educational credentials of the caregivers. Does the facility appear clean and well maintained with safety and health as priorities? Ask yourself if the program will work for you and will your child be happy and engaged in the child care setting? Take the time to talk to parents who are using the program you are considering, and check references of the program and caregivers.

Best of luck in securing quality child care!

4C Child Care Unlimited Referral Staff