

Appendix C: Principles for Child Care Modernization

These principles support the City of Ottawa's 2013-2017 Child Care Modernization Framework, and are in alignment with the Provincial Early Years Policy Statement.

Principle	What This Means
1. Parental Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a gradual shift to 'floating subsidies'; the subsidy follows the child • Families can choose where their child receives subsidized care
2. Priority Access to Subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve access to child care in underserved neighbourhoods • Develop a prioritised waitlist for subsidy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All applications are date stamped ○ Application process is streamlined
3. Unique Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on families most in need, including children with documented Special Needs, and children from First Nations/Métis/Inuit families • Maintain Francophone funding allocation proportionate to the census Francophone population with children aged 0-10 • Maintain Head Start programs
4. System Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a standardized funding formula • Develop purchase of service contracts with agencies, including performance measures to demonstrate that the agency meets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provincial licensing and quality frameworks ○ Continuous service improvements ○ Efficient service provision • Major and minor capital funding allocation to agencies meeting operating performance measures
5. System Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate within approved budgets • Assist agencies to remain viable with 3 year Transitional Funding
6. Integrated Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support system planning with school boards and community partners • Apply evidence based decision-making
7. Transparency and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with community partners and parents on an ongoing basis