



February 7, 2023

Dear families,

Hawthorne-on-Essex Daycare is excited to be offering our 2023 summer camp program for children ages five and up. We strive to offer children numerous opportunities to participate in an array of exciting and engaging activities, cooperate with other campers and have fun!

This year, there will be two changes to our summer camp policies:

1. Children who are four years of age and are starting Junior Kindergarten in September (including children who are currently enrolled at the daycare in the senior preschool room, room 105) will no longer be able to enroll in the kindergarten summer camp program. To help prepare the senior preschoolers in room 105 for Junior Kindergarten readiness while giving them an experience similar to that of summer camp-style, our programming will include excursions and a broad range of activities and adventures that will stimulate curiosity and help further develop their skills in different areas of growth.

There will be no changes to the enrolment process (IE. there is no option to sign up week by week) and breakfast, lunch and snacks will still be provided.

We realize that this may prove to be an adjustment for some families. However, we have found that children entering the summer camp program directly from senior preschool often require more preparation in order to fully engage in and enjoy kindergarten summer camp. Our experienced senior preschool RECEs are excited to develop an engaging, fun and developmentally appropriate program that will help support children and their families as they prepare for Junior Kindergarten.

A separate communication letter will be sent out to the senior preschooler families.

2. For children who are five years of age and eligible to enroll in the kindergarten summer camp program, **a minimum four week** enrollment is required in order to maintain their fall 2023 daycare spots. In previous years, we have required a two week minimum enrollment for kindergarten. Our new policy is being put in place to ensure that the camp program remains financially sustainable in the future following the implementation of the Canada Wide Early Learning Child Care (CWELCC) fee reductions.

This policy change applies only to kindergarten aged children, as this age group is currently receiving fee reductions through the CWELCC.

School aged children (those who are currently in Grade 1 and older) will still be able to enroll for **a minimum of two weeks** of summer camp in order to reserve their 2023 daycare spot.

More information, including dates, registration deadlines, and costs will be provided in the coming weeks.

Please feel free to reach out to Hannah should you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to another exciting summer!

Hannah Singh RECE, Acting Executive Director
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