

CHAPTER THREE: BUILDING, EQUIPMENT AND PLAYGROUND

Building, Equipment and Playground	Temperature
Approved: September 20, 2017	Policy Number: 3.13

Policy

North Hastings children's Services shall ensure that the temperature is adequate to ensure the safety and well-being of the children.

Procedures

Indoors -

North Hastings Children's Services shall ensure at least 20 C (68 F) is maintained in the play/ activity area of the child care centre.

Outdoors –

Children must spend time outdoors for at least two hours each day and outside for a minimum of 30 minutes for Before and After School, weather permitting, unless a physician or parent of the child advises otherwise in writing.

All children benefit from time spent outside playing and exploring where they are able to connect with the natural world and their community. Opportunities for gross motor and highly active play are often easier to offer in outdoor play spaces. Children should have appropriate clothing for all weather conditions based on the seasonal expectations. I.e. mittens and hats, rubber boots, etc.

Educators should use their judgment on the inclement weather and check the temperature before going outside and plan activities based on this. They are encouraged to check Environment Canada to check for weather conditions. In the summer with hot weather educators are encouraged to take out children in the morning when it is cooler and/or do a quiet activity in the shade. In the colder weather educators are encouraged to go out for shorter periods of time and/or do a physical activity to keep warm. Be aware at all times of the children's wellbeing, watching for signs of heat exhaustion, frost bite or sunburns.

The daily log should be noted of the inclement weather should the minimum outdoor play does not occur.