

EQUIPMENT, FURNISHINGS & PLAY MATERIALS



Policy Statement

Compass Early Learning and Care supports each child's right to safe and appropriate furnishings and equipment, and play materials that promote learning and development in all areas, consistent with Compass ELC's Program Statement and the Child Care & Early Years Act.

Policy Guidelines

1. Each Home Child Care program has appropriate equipment and furnishings necessary for the ages and abilities of children in attendance.
2. Children have access to play materials that provide opportunities to engage in exploration, play and inquiry.
3. The responsibilities of both HCC Providers and Compass ELC regarding the provision and maintenance of equipment, play materials and furnishings are outlined and agreed to in the **Independent Contractor Agreement**.

Procedures

1. Compass ELC HCC Consultants establish, during initial home inspections and quarterly home inspections, that:
 - a) Equipment and furnishings:
 - i) A crib or playpen and bedding is provided for each infant (under 18 months) in care.
 - ii) A cot or bed and bedding is provided for each child between 18 months and five years old who receives care for six hours or more.
 - iii) Safety regulations for cribs, playpens and other children's equipment, outlined in the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act, are followed.
 - b) Play Materials are:
 - i) Sufficient to serve the number of children in care.
 - ii) Of sufficient variety to allow for rotation of the play materials in active use.
 - iii) Available and accessible to children throughout the day.
 - iv) Supportive of exploration, play and inquiry, and align with the Program Statement.
 - v) Appropriate to support learning and development of every child.
 - vi) Of a nature to spark children's curiosity and promote learning and development in social, emotional, cognitive and physical areas.
 - c) Equipment, furnishings and play materials are maintained in a safe and clean condition and kept in a good state of repair.
2. The Home Child Care office maintains a lending library containing equipment and play materials.
 - a) **A record of supplies loaned to each HCC Provider is kept at the office.**
 - b) Each HCC Provider is responsible to return lending library items clean and in good repair:
 - i) Broken items will be replaced by Providers.
 - ii) A fine may be implemented for items returned not clean.
3. **The *Equipment, Furnishings & Play Materials Policy* is reviewed upon the signing of the initial contract by the HCC Provider. It is reviewed before interaction with children, and when revisions are made, by the HCC Provider, Back-up Providers, students, volunteers and persons who are ordinarily residents or who are regularly at the Home Child Care premises. Reviews are recorded on *Document Review: Orientation* and/or *Document Review: Updates*.**