

Outdoor Policy

Name of Program:	(License/Registration/CC Number):	
Program Type (Choose One): <input type="checkbox"/> Child Care Center <input type="checkbox"/> License Exempt Program <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Group Child Care <input type="checkbox"/> Head Start	Director/Administrator/Owner Name:	Contact Phone Number:
Address:		
City/Zip Code:		

Rationale:

Outdoor play is an opportunity for learning in a different environment and it provides many health benefits. Outdoor play allows for physical activity that supports maintenance of a healthy weight and better nighttime sleep and brief exposure of the skin to sunlight promotes the production of vitamin D that growing children require. Outdoor play is important for children and caregivers alike—be flexible with outdoor scheduling to take advantage of cooler temperatures earlier in the day for example or break up play sessions into shorter time periods.

Caution should be taken in the event of inclement weather which is defined as a wind chill factor at or below 20 degrees Fahrenheit or at or above a heat index of 90 degrees Fahrenheit by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, and the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education.

Policy:

_____ provides children play outdoors daily when weather permits. Outdoor play will not occur in the presence of thunder, lightning, heavy precipitation, and weather advisories. Time outdoors for children includes both structured (led by adult teachers) and unstructured (child led) play opportunities. Parents are informed that outdoor play occurs daily and that children should wear seasonal appropriate attire when playing in the outdoor space. Our program’s schedule for daily outdoor play is flexible and allows for variations in weather each day (e.g., afternoon temperatures are projected to be high, children go outside in the morning instead).

How many minutes does your program allow for outdoor play daily? List the times outdoor play is scheduled. Infants: Toddlers: Preschool: School Age:
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If inclement weather occurs, what alternative physical activity opportunities are provided inside?

If a child is not dressed appropriately for outdoor weather conditions, what do you do to ensure the child can go outside with their peers?

_____, staff have been informed, read, understand, and agree to implement/abide by the Outdoor policy as written. Our program understands that non-compliance with this policy can result in adverse actions. `

Print Name of Authorized Personnel:

Signature of Authorized Personnel:

Date: