

## **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR SAFETY IN THE PLAYGROUND**

1. The Beacon Learning Centre believes in providing a safe and secure playground for the children. Prior to the children going outside, the ground, fences and gates shall be inspected daily by a staff member.
2. Secondary gates shall be locked at all times when children are playing outside.
3. Children are not allowed to climb the fence nor open the gate.
4. Children may not run up the slides, slide down head first, nor slide down in groups.
5. Children must stay away from swings while in operation.
6. Children may not jump from unsafe heights.
7. Children should only ride tricycles on the path, not on the grass or the hill.
8. Staff ratios must not be compromised during playground activities. If a staff member needs to enter the building for any reason she must first be replaced by the floater.
9. Teachers must place themselves so that they have clear sight lines at all times. If a teacher is momentarily unable to monitor because she is putting on a band aid or dealing with a behavior, she should let the other teachers know.
10. Conduct regular head counts.
11. Nursery school children will be checked in and out by the staff members. Parents must ensure that only children in their care leave with them and that no other child manages to accompany them when leaving the centre or the grounds.
12. Parents or guardians are expected to make staff aware of their departure.
13. If there are unwanted persons on the premises, or just outside the fence, inform a staff member.
14. Parent or guardians who allow children to remain in the playground after pickup time are using the facilities at their own risk. In these cases, children are the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

## **PROCEDURE IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY**

If a child has been found to be missing from the playground and building:

1. 911 shall be called immediately.
2. A brief description of the child should be put together with the photo of the child (if on file) (name, age, main language, height, hair colour, clothes wearing, etc.)
3. If sufficient teachers are present to ensure the security of remaining children, one staff member should start looking in the immediate vicinity of the centre.
4. Parents of the missing child should be informed immediately.
5. The president, or in his/her absence the 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president, should be notified.
6. In all circumstances children at the centre should be made to feel safe.

### **Playground Inspections**

The BLC playground will be annually inspected by a Certified Playground Inspector. Any deficiencies resulting from the inspection will be resolved immediately and this will be noted in the Repair/Maintenance log in the playground file.

The playground will be inspected daily, monthly and seasonally by the director of the Beacon Learning Centre.

Any new equipment will be installed to meet CSA Standard.