

Quality Indicators

Suitability & training of care providers

- Highly skilled staff

Child development & the learning environment

- Language-rich environment
- Age-appropriate curricula
- Stimulating materials

Group size & ratios

- Small class size & high adult-to-child ratios

Adult relationships

- Warm, responsive interactions between staff & children

Health, nutrition, & safety

- Hygiene practices in place
- Supervision
- Safe physical setting
- Inclusion of all children

Partnership

- Participation of, support for, & communication with community & families

Regulation

- Above & beyond minimum standards

Wages & Working Conditions

- Higher wages & good working conditions = better educated staff, higher morale, lower turnover

Auspice

- Public and non-profit child care is more likely to be better quality

Resources

Child Care & Early Years Act

- New legislation governing childcare in Ontario
- <https://www.ontario.ca/page/child-care-rules-child-care-and-early-years-act>

How Does Learning Happen?: Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years

- “pedagogy and program development in early years settings that is shaped by views about children, the role of educators and families, and the relationships among them” (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2015)
- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/pedagogy.html>

Child Development Resource Connection Peel

- “connects community and practitioners with the information, resources, training and services that promote quality family life” (CDRCP, 2016d)
- www.cdcrp.com

Peel Region Resources

- **Ontario Works in Peel** peelregion.ca/owl/
- **Children's Services** peelregion.ca/children/
- **Parent Education & Support** peelregion.ca/children/resources/families/index.htm

Family Education Centre

- Parent-to-parent education, support, and training
- www.familyedcentre.org

The Canadian Child Care Federation

- Early learning and child care knowledge and best practices
- www.cccf-fcsg.ca

A Parent's Guide to School-Age Care



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This guide provides information on how to find suitable school-age care providers and some available options in the Brampton area

What is school-age care?

- It is “care [that] is regulated outside school hours for school-age children” who are six to twelve years old (Brisback & Kopf-Johnson, 2010, p. 4)
- It can be found in settings such as recreation or community centres, churches, spaces within schools, or purpose-built environments such as licensed childcare centres (Brisback & Kopf-Johnson, 2010, p. 7)

Types of School-Age Care

	Recreation Programs	Home Childcare	Sibling/ Self-Care	Licensed Care
Hours of Care	PT; after-school	PT; extended hours	Varies	Both before and after-school
Cost	Usually cheaper than licensed care		None	Often more expensive
Fee Subsidy	May be available	Not available		May be available
Setting	Community-based	Home-based		May be more institutional
Nature of Care	Focus on skill development	More child independence		Structured; various activities
Staff Qualifications	Minimal training	Unknown	No adult present	Registered with the College of ECE

Finding A Suitable Childcare Provider

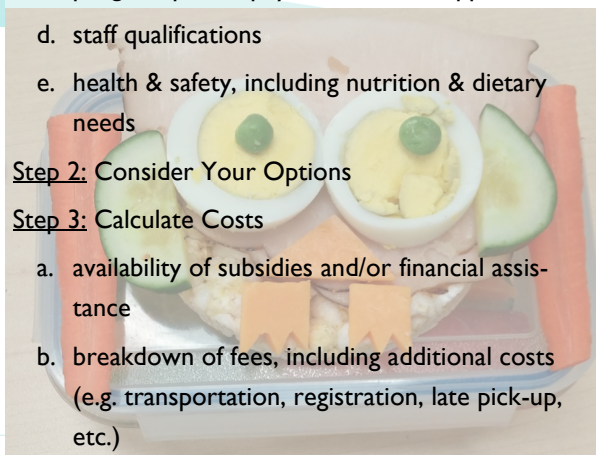
Step 1: Identify Your Needs and Preferences

- location; hours of care, holidays, & PD days
- your child’s interests, skills, & needed supports
- program philosophy & curriculum approach
- staff qualifications
- health & safety, including nutrition & dietary needs

Step 2: Consider Your Options

Step 3: Calculate Costs

- availability of subsidies and/or financial assistance
- breakdown of fees, including additional costs (e.g. transportation, registration, late pick-up, etc.)



Step 4: Visit Your Shortlist (CRRU, n.d. a)

- observe interactions, programming, & the physical environments
- get to know the staff; assess their responsiveness, warmth, and knowledge
- assess health & safety, as well as whether children are happy, well-occupied, & engaged in the program

Step 5: Make Your Final Decision (CDRCP, 2016c)

- Does the childcare meet your needs? Is it affordable and conveniently located?
- Would you be comfortable leaving your child there?

Program Options in Brampton

	Services/ Hours of Care	Flexibility	Philosophy	Setting	Staff Qualifications	Cost
Master Park’s Tiger Tae Kwon Do	Recreation Program: 45-minute lessons between 3:30pm & 8:50pm	PT: two classes per week	“Strength in the mind, body, and spirit”	Dedicated Martial Arts Studio	Trained Martial Artists	From \$100/month; \$50 for uniform
Bumble-Bee’s First Choice Day Care	Unlicensed Care: 7:30am to 6pm	PT & FT options available	Activities include crafts and homework help	Home Child Care	None	\$15/day
PLASP	Licensed Care: Before- and After-School; PD days; March break	PT & FT options available	“Children are competent, capable, curious, and rich in potential” (PLASP, 2016b)	Local Schools	Registered with the College of ECE	\$83.10 bi-weekly or \$148-\$240 for 14 visits
Alpha Child Care	Licensed Care: Before- and After-School; PD days; March break; Snow days	PT & FT options available	Focus on interpersonal relationships, self-esteem, and social skills	Child Care Centre	Registered with the College of ECE	