

Dear Monica,

Congratulations on your provincial award for child care excellence. One of the most significant features of your program is that you integrate preschool with child care. There are plenty of quality preschool programs to choose from, but they end at 11:30 am or only run for a couple of hours in the afternoon.

Your model does not separate "preschool" from "day care", and provides children with a consistent, enriching routine of programmed learning in the morning followed by more typical day-care activities such as lunch, nap and play in the afternoon. It is important that children in full-time care can still enjoy the benefits of preschool, even if their parents are unable to shuttle them between preschool and day care.

I hope that this award will help the child care community recognize the benefits of integrating a formal preschool program into day care services for 3-5 yr olds. I also wish you continued success and I am grateful for the care my children have received.

Sincerely,
Beth Cormier