



**Umbrella Family and
Child Centres of Hamilton**

3.1 EXPRESSION POLICY STATEMENT

MANUAL	Child Care Centre Program Policy Manual
SECTION	3- Expression
POLICY	3.1 Expression Policy Statement
LAST REVISED	June 19, 2024

RATIONALE

“Every child is a capable communicator who expresses himself or herself in many ways. Early childhood programs foster communication and expression in all forms.” (HDLH). UFCC’s approach to learning and the curriculum reflect these beliefs.

RESPONSIBILITY

All staff.

POLICY

UFCC staff members use the document *How Does Learning Happen?- Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years* in supporting developmentally appropriate practice. Staff are committed to learning alongside children. They are alert to opportunities to expand explorations using questions, prompts and encouragement. Staff listen carefully to children’s thoughts, providing materials, and posing questions to allow children to explore, solve problems, and draw conclusions. The classroom environment is designed to encourage exploration.

Program plans reflect the developing interests of children and a deep understanding of the sequence of child development. This responsive programming sparks children’s natural inquisitiveness and desire to learn. Children’s work is displayed to extend learning and support reflection.

We support children as they develop ways of recognizing and expressing feelings whether they are happy, sad, angry, or tired. Our goal is for children to support children as they develop ways of both expressing both their own feelings and listening to others.

Children’s thinking and learning is recognized and celebrated through displays of work, written observations, photographs, and individual portfolios. Families, children, and staff are all invited to be a part of this process. Our approach to pedagogical documentation is designed to share the story of children’s learning in the context of the developing child. We are inspired by the work of educators in Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Policy Attachments: N/A