

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES**

### **Background**

The Division believes that Early Childhood Services programs should address the developmental needs of each child. Where such programs are offered by the Division, it supports an integrated model of services involving staff, parents and the community.

### **Procedures**

1. The Early Childhood Services Program will adhere to the beliefs, principles, goals and program dimensions as set out in the current Alberta Education Program Statement.
2. Enrollment in Early Childhood programs is voluntary.
3. Children who are five years old before March 1 will be eligible for ECS.
4. Where ECS programs are offered by the Division, students are considered as enrolled students for budgeting purposes, and as such are part of the whole school's budget process.
5. Currently, NLSD schools shall offer a 4 day literacy enhanced Kindergarten program.
6. All Kindergarten staff will be in serviced in appropriate and effective best practice research in order to teach NLSD's literacy enhanced Kindergarten program.

Reference: Section 8, 30, 60, School Act  
Early Childhood Regulation 31/2002  
Early Childhood Policy 1.1.3