Nursery School Programs

For children 4 months - 5 years

About Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital is Canada's largest children's rehabilitation hospital.

Our vision is to create a world of possibility for kids with disability. We pioneer treatments, technologies, therapies and real-world programs that give children with disabilities the tools to participate fully in life.

Holland Bloorview serves about 7,000 children each year, with about 600 inpatient admissions and 50,000 outpatient visits. Holland Bloorview is a world-class teaching hospital fully affiliated with the University of Toronto. We train future healthcare specialists in the field of childhood disability. The Bloorview Research Institute is located onsite, allowing us to integrate cutting-edge research and teaching with frontline care to improve children's quality of life.

The Nursery School Programs are offered through Early Learning and Development at Holland Bloorview.
Our philosophy

*We Believe…*

- All children benefit from an early learning environment that reflects the unique abilities of each child, and respects the importance of family.

- We provide a creative, innovative setting which challenges all children with rich, spontaneous activities and supported experiences to allow each one to achieve their personal best.

Who we serve

The Nursery School Programs and Services integrate children with and without special needs, with an approximate ratio of 50:50.

As we are licensed and funded by the City of Toronto Children Services, our clients and centres are within the Greater Toronto Area boundaries (416 area code).

Benefits for the community

*Our programs and services:*

- promote awareness, support and understanding of children with special needs

- create placements for students in secondary, post-secondary and early childhood education programs

Our staff

- Early Childhood Educators
- Resource Teachers
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Communicative Disorder Assistant
- Music Specialist (Play and Learn site)

Nursery school programs

We believe that learning opportunities come from experience. We recognize that growth is dependent upon individual learning styles. Through experiential play-based multi-sensory activities each child has the freedom to make each experience their own. We provide structured and non-structured situations in an environment that is fun and interesting.

If your child has special needs, the resource program is an enhancement of the group program and includes support service from a physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech language pathologist, and communicative disorders assistant. This multidisciplinary team supports both teachers and families in the analysis of each child’s needs. The team plans, develops, and consults in the implementation of each child’s individual and program goals.

As part of the requirements by the City of Toronto, Toronto Children’s Services Division, Individual Educational Plans will be established for children with special needs.

In addition, if your child is typically developing, a Screening Tool (Nipissing Developmental Scale) will be utilized for the monitoring of development.

The program runs:
- Monday – Friday from September to June.
- Programs offered three, four or five - half days
  9 – 11:15 a.m.
  1 – 3:15 p.m.

Community outreach service:

- provides support to childcare centres in the Toronto area regarding programming, occupational therapy consultation and school transitions
- provides links to community support
- community education, awareness and advocacy
- serves children birth to 12 years
- is offered Monday to Friday

Infant development service:

- serves children in their homes from birth to five years with a diagnosis, delays and/or developmental concerns.
- provides infant consultants and therapists that support families to enhance child’s development
- provides developmental programming support
- includes parent education, play strategies, community information and links.
- is funded by the Ministry of Community, Family and Children Services

0-2 Babies program:

- offers sensory, motor play and music in a child-centred atmosphere for infants – three months to two years and their parents
- is offered once per week (either Tuesdays or Fridays)

Summer camp:

- Play and Learn site
- Serves children two and a half to five years
- Four or six weeks (July – August)
- Five mornings per week