



Dear Parents,

We are delighted to inform you that we are involved with **Quality First**, an initiative within Halton that is dedicated to supporting early childhood programs in further developing the level of quality care and education they offer to young children and their families. We are very excited to be a part of this opportunity. This project will run over an 18-month period.

**WHAT IS QUALITY FIRST?**

**Quality First** evolved in response to the Halton early childhood community's recognition of the need to develop and support a high level of quality care and education for young children and their families. An initial event brought together a group of over 80 individuals from various community organizations in a "Speaking of Quality Forum" on April 17, 2004. At that event, individuals participated in a facilitated process of generating ideas and recommendations about how quality could be improved. This Forum was the beginning of the project now called **Quality First**.

**WHAT DOES QUALITY FIRST OFFER OUR PROGRAM?**

The model is based on program evaluation as well as training and support for professional development in the following areas:

- Environment
- Curriculum
- Adult-child interactions
- Integration of children with special needs
- Administration/Supervision

By participating in the Quality First we will receive:

- training in the use of program evaluation tools
- support for the supervisor and preschool staff in identifying current quality strengths as well as growth areas
- assistance in identifying specialized learning and development opportunities that will support quality improvement
- support for participation in community professional development activities
- training support for increasing administrative capabilities
- assistance in developing our ability to act as an appropriate placement site for college students

If you have any questions please let me know.

Sincerely,



Funding provided by

