

### 210 - 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 on or before December 31 will be eligible for ECS

Note: Wild Rose School Division recommends that children attain the age of five years prior to entering Early Childhood programs. Parents are cautioned to investigate fully the advantages and disadvantages associated with placing their children in ECS prior to them reaching the age of five years.

4. A variety of program models (full-day, half-day and/or home-based program) may be available depending on the needs of the child and the community, and resources available.
5. 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.

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