



Quality First is a Program of The Halton Resource Connection

# Quality First and Halton Region “Together We Make Quality Happen”

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The Halton Resource Connection

905-875-4600

[www.thrc.ca](http://www.thrc.ca)



# Welcome

- Today's theme
- What do we do in Halton?
- Roles in the child care centres



# Agenda

- What is Inclusion?
- What is Quality First?
- Inclusion/Integration Stream
- Key Messages/Points
- Outcomes
- Wrap Up



# What is Inclusion?



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# What is Quality First?

- A community driven initiative providing all licensed child care programs in Halton Region with the opportunity to participate in a developmental model for quality improvement.



# Quality Indicators: Streams

- Environment/Curriculum
- Adult-Child Interactions
- *Inclusive Practices...to be or not to be*
- Professionalism
- Administration and Supervision
- Support for ECE College Students



# Quality First Model

<b><u>Phase 1 &amp; 2</u></b> <b>Tool training</b>	<b>Tool Assessment &amp; Report Share</b>	<b>Goal Setting &amp; Action Plans Completed</b>	<b>Support &amp; Resources Provided</b>
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<b>Implementation of Goals &amp; Action Plans</b>	<b><u>Phase 3</u></b> <b>Meet Tool expectations</b>	<b><u>Maintenance Phase</u></b> <b>Self-sustaining</b>
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# Integration/Inclusion Stream

## *TOOLS*

Specialink Practices Profile

Specialink Principles Profile

Quality Inclusive Checklist

[www.ecrtno.ca](http://www.ecrtno.ca)

## *REQUIRED OUTCOME*





# Integration/Inclusion Stream

<b><u>Phase 2</u></b> <b>Tool training</b>	<b>Tool Assessment &amp; Report Share</b>	<b>Goal Setting &amp; Action Plans Completed</b>	<b>Support &amp; Resources Provided</b>
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## Specialink Inclusion Practises Profile & Principles Scale

<b>Implementation of Goals &amp; Action Plans</b>	<b><u>Phase 3</u></b> <b>Meet Tool expectations</b>	<b><u>Maintenance Phase</u></b> <b>Self-sustaining</b>
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# Integration/Inclusion Stream

## *TOOLS*

## *REQUIRED OUTCOME*

Specialink Practices Profile

**5/7 or higher**

Specialink Principles Profile

**5/7 or higher**

Quality Inclusive Checklist

**58/83 (70%)**

[www.ecrtno.ca](http://www.ecrtno.ca)



# Key Messages

- Collaborations
- Change in Attitudes
- Positive Effects on Children





# *Collaboration*

Mary Beth Jonz

Director of Children's Services

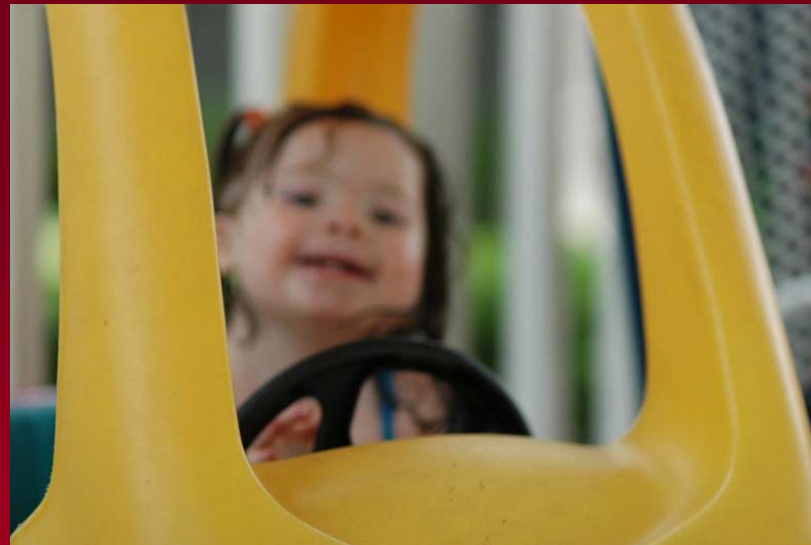


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# Collaboration

- Lynne's Story...
- How the heck do we find "assistive devices?!"





# Collaboration

What did Lynne's team do...

- Contacted Integration Services Team
- Provided feedback to Quality First staff
- Researched Professional Development
- Requested equipment from The Halton Resource Connection



# Collaboration



**The Halton Resource Connection (THRC)** works in partnership with individuals and organizations who serve the interests of children and youth within the Halton community, providing curriculum resources, services, equipment, and professional development which enhance the quality of care and learning environments for children and families.

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# The Inclusive Classroom Series

Goal: To ensure an inclusive and invisibly integrated classroom.

1. The Embedded Curriculum
2. Developing Individual Program Plans
3. Being an Effective Member of a Service Co-ordination Team



# Change in Attitude



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# Change in Attitude



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# Positive Effect on Children

- 82 classrooms in Halton are involved in the Quality First process

**Over 1700 children!!!**



# Positive Effect on Children

- Specialink Inclusive Practices and Principles Profile
- Scores speak louder than words...





# Outcomes- Collaboration

- Shared goals
- Shared definition
- Common understandings
- Written standards



# Outcomes- Attitudes

## A Community of Practice

“A group of professionals and other stakeholders in pursuit of a shared learning enterprise where all stakeholders involved contribute equally to the professional community’s knowledge base”

*Early Childhood Inclusion: Focus on Change*



# Outcomes- Positive Effects on Children

An anecdote from a community service provider who visited a child care centre participating in Quality First and visited a child care centre not participating in Quality First.





# Wrap Up

***Together We Make Quality Happen!***

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