



Planting Seeds 🍷 Growing Giggles 🍷 Harvesting Love

Policy Handbook

Blossoming Nook Daycare
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blossomnook.care
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I. GENERAL INFORMATION: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Our daycare policy is designed to ensure the safety, well-being, and development of the children in our care, while providing clear guidelines for staff, parents, and guardians. The policies cover all aspects of daycare operations, including health and safety protocols, child supervision, staff qualifications, and daily routines. We aim to create a nurturing and structured environment where children can learn, play, and grow.

These policies also outline communication procedures with parents, including regular updates on a child's progress, incident reporting, and emergency contact protocols. Additionally, the policies establish expectations for staff behavior, ensuring all employees meet professional standards in caregiving, early childhood education, and maintaining a safe environment. By following these guidelines, we ensure consistent care and foster a positive, supportive atmosphere for all children and families involved.

Blossoming Nook Daycare is licensed by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Children and Families (www.dcf.wisconsin.gov). We are licensed to care for no more than 8 children at any one time. We are inspected regularly to ensure that I meet licensing standards.

Blossoming Nook Daycare is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all children, families, and staff. Without discriminating on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, age, or any other characteristic protected by law. Our daycare embraces diversity and strives to foster an environment where everyone feels respected and valued. Blossoming Nook Daycare will provide care for 8 children ages 1 Year(s) - 7 Year(s) per shift. Our Licensing Specialist may be contacted with any concerns at (262) 446-7853.

Child care services will be provided between the hours of 6:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, January through December. No service will be provided on:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- July 4th
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day

All regular fees WILL be charged for these holidays. If a holiday falls on a Saturday, we will be closed the previous Friday. If a holiday falls on a Sunday, we will be closed the Monday following.

We will post the following items for your review:

- License certificate.
- The current Compliance Statement or Noncompliance Statement and Correction Plan
- Any notice from the department related to rule violations, such as a warning letter or enforcement action. These items will remain posted until the violations have been verified as corrected and the action is closed.
- Any stipulations, conditions, temporary closures, exceptions, or exemptions that affect the license.
- Center policies.

Blossoming Nook Daycare ensures the safety of every child with daily sign-in/out sheets, including an emergency contact list on the sign-in board, and regular headcounts. During outings, staff carry attendance records and conduct headcounts at each transition. All records are reviewed daily and securely stored for accurate tracking.

Parents will receive a copy of *Your Guide to Regulated Child Care*, which is a summary of child care licensing regulations, as part of an enrollment packet.

Parents are welcome to visit my child care program at any time after 7:00 am and before 5:00 pm during the hours of operation unless parental access is prohibited or restricted by a court order. If so, I will need a copy of the order. Please understand that I cannot legally limit access to a parent if there is not a copy of a court order on file at the center.

I am required to maintain a current, accurate, written record of daily attendance for all children. Please assist me in meeting this requirement by signing your child(ren) in and out of the center on the required *Daily Attendance Record – Child Care Centers*.

Children will only be released to persons listed on the enrollment form. If anyone other than the child's parent or someone who is listed on the enrollment form is to pick up a child, I need to be notified in writing or by a phone call in advance. The person picking up the child may need to show a driver's license or other picture ID.

I WILL NOT walk children who attend school to and from the center in the morning and after school. If parents wish to allow a school-age child to leave or arrive at the center unescorted, they must provide written authorization for this activity. School-age children who leave the center unescorted must be traveling to home, school, or another activity where adult supervision is present. Parents may use the form *Alternate Arrival / Release Agreement – Child Care Centers* to provide this information to the center.

If the parent or other authorized person arrives to pick up a child and that person appears to be intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, all reasonable steps will be taken to prevent the person from leaving with the child, including offering to call a cab or another contact person. While I cannot legally withhold a child from the legal guardian, I will not hesitate to call the local authorities if I feel the child is in danger.

It is important that we communicate daily concerning the needs and interests of your child. If there are issues or concerns that need to be discussed, please work with me to arrange a convenient time to talk on the phone at naptime or in the evening so we can give the issue the attention it deserves. To foster communication, Blossoming Nook Daycare provides scheduled CONFERENCES / WRITTEN NEWSLETTERS / PARENT BULLETIN BOARD / DAILY SHEETS on a regular basis.

To protect each family's confidentiality, Blossoming Nook Daycare will not disclose personal information regarding a child or facts learned about a child or a child's family to anyone who is not authorized to receive this information.

General Liability Insurance on Premises: Blossoming Nook Daycare is not covered.

Professional Liability Insurance on Business Operations: Blossoming Nook Daycare is not covered.

A parent, upon request, has access to all records and reports maintained on his or her child. Every parent has a right to their child's school, medical, and dental records, and any video recordings of their child. The only exceptions to this rule are if a court specifically orders that a parent does not have access to the child. To prohibit or restrict access, the center must have a copy of the court order on file at the center.

All child care providers are mandated reporters of suspected child abuse or neglect. If a child care provider suspects a child has been abused or neglected, that provider is required to report the suspected abuse or neglect to Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (414) 220-SAFE (7233). Each child care provider and substitute will receive training at least every year in child abuse and neglect laws, how to identify children who have been abused or neglected, and the procedure for ensuring that all known or suspected cases of child abuse or neglect are immediately reported to the proper authorities.

Wisconsin's Concealed Carry Law: Wisconsin Act 35 relating to carrying concealed weapons went into effect November 1, 2011. No person may carry weapons while on the premises of the child care center during licensed hours. Signs (at least 5" x 7") providing notice of refusal to allow weapons are posted near all probable access points where any individual entering the building or grounds can be reasonably expected to see the sign.

Emergency Items Provided by Parent/ Provider: - 09/24/2024

To ensure the comfort and care of your child's well-being, we ask parents to provide the following emergency items for your child. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure these items are kept up-to-date and suitable for each season. As the provider we will provide a backup of the following items if needed.

- Disposable diapers, baby wipes, formula, full change of clothing, including underwear and socks, clothing suitable for outdoor play for each season, and car seat or booster seat

II. ENROLLMENT AND DISCHARGE OF ENROLLED CHILDREN: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

All children will be enrolled for a trial period of 30 days.. During the trial period, either the provider or parent may terminate child care without advance notice.

Parents must meet with provider to discuss their child's specific needs and to review program policies. I will make a reasonable accommodation for a child with disabilities as specified under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The following items must be completed and returned to the center by the first day of attendance.

- *Child Care Enrollment*

- *Heath History and Emergency Care Plan*
- *Alternate Arrival / Release Agreement – Child Care Centers* (if applicable)
- *Intake for Child Under 2 Years – Child Care Centers* (if applicable)
- *Transportation Permission – Child Care Centers* (if applicable)
- Registration fee
- First week's regular fee
- Parent / Provider Agreement

Blossoming Nook Daycare will inform you of any updates that are needed and give 14 days to submit the updated forms.

The following items must be completed and returned to me within 14 days.

- *Child Health Report – Child Care Centers*
- *Child Care Immunization Record* or an electronic printout of your child's immunization history •

Children may be enrolled on a full-time basis (30 hours per week or more), or a part-time basis (less than 30 hours per week). Children can be regularly enrolled for less than 15 hours per week.

Drop-in Care: Blossoming Nook Daycare does accept children for drop-in care.

A child may be discharged from the center for reasons, including, but not limited to:

- Failure to pay fees on time (grounds for immediate termination, without advance notice).
- Lack of parental cooperation.
- Inability of child care program to meet the needs of the child. I will consult with the parent concerning how any problems might be solved before ending the care arrangement. The parent will be referred to other community resources.
- Repeated failure to pick up the child at the scheduled time.
- Failure to complete and return required forms.
- Failure to comply with the terms of the child care agreement.

Blossoming Nook Daycare will give a 30 day written notice of my intent to discharge a child and try to inform parents of local resources that may be of help to them, except when the discharge is due to

the parent's failure to keep current with fees owed. Should the parent remove the child during the notice period I initiate, fees will not be charged for the remaining unused days.

Parents must give a 30 day written notice of their intent to withdraw the child(ren) and will be required to pay for those 30 days whether or not children continue to attend. All outstanding fees must be paid.

III. PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Fees are to be paid in advance on Monday's for the following week's services. If there will be a third-party payment, as from an employer or the county, a special payment schedule will be arranged and detailed in the contract. Parents will be responsible for any specified co-payments or unpaid amounts.

Registration / Enrollment fee: A registration / enrollment fee of \$ 25 must be paid prior to start date or with the first fee payment.

Blossoming Nook Daycare has established a regular rate based on your child's hours of enrollment. Additional fees will be assessed for additional hours if care is part-time or hours exceed 40 hours per week.

A full-time rate is offered for children who will be in care for 30 hours or more, 5 days per week.

An hourly rate is charged if children will attend fewer than 4 hours each day, or fewer than 15 hours per week.

There will be an extra fee assessed for late payment or late pick up of a child.

Rates are higher for children under 2 years of age than for older children.

There will be no reductions for additional children from one family. I am limited in the number of children that I may care for at one time.

No refunds will be given for days when children do not attend due to illness or other reasons.

After a child has been enrolled for 160 days , I will allow 5 days per year (prorated for part-time enrollments) with no fee required. These days may be used for sick or vacation time. After these 5 days are used, I will require full payment for any absences for the rest of that year.

RATE SHEET - 09/24/2024

Rates at Blossoming Nook Daycare , effective 09/24/2024 , are as follows:

Full-time Weekly

Children 1 Year(s) 0 Month(s) - 1 Year(s) 11 month(s)

Childcare weekly rates \$397.85 per week

Children 2 Year(s) 0 Month(s) - 3 Year(s) 11 Month(s)

Childcare weekly rates \$351.05 per week

Children 4 Year(s) 0 Month(s) - 7 Year(s) 1 Month(s)

Childcare weekly rates \$324.04 per week

Part-time Weekly

Children 1 Year(s) 0 Month(s) - 7 Year(s) 1 Month(s)

Childcare weekly rates \$271.20

Hourly Rate: \$9.04 per hour

Fee for late pick up of child \$25.00 per 15-minute interval (or any fraction thereof) per child.

Fees are to be paid in advance on Mondays of each week / last enrolled day each week for the following week's services. If there will be a third-party payment, as from an employer or the county, a special payment schedule will be arranged and detailed in the contract. Parents will be responsible for any specified co-payments or unpaid amounts.

Fee for late payment. If a payment is more than 3 days late, including weekend days, a mandatory daily fee of \$65.00 will be charged for each day payment is not made. This fee will be charged for each day payment is not made (including the 3 days already past due).

The financial terms will be finalized upon signing of the parent-provider contract.

If the parent or legal guardian is under age 18, a cosigner must sign the contract to act as guarantor to the contract and agree to be bound by all financial terms. Families will receive a minimum of 30 day notice when a rate increase is planned.

IV. CHILD AND PROVIDER ABSENCES: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

a. Child Absence

If your child will not attend on a regularly scheduled day, please let me know within 24 hours before your child's scheduled arrival time.

If a child who is scheduled to arrive at the center does not arrive within 30 minutes after the specified time on the written agreement signed by the parent, and I have not been notified in advance of the child's absence, I will attempt to contact the parent or guardian to determine the child's whereabouts. All attempts, whether successful or unsuccessful, will be documented.

If a child is expected to arrive at the center from someplace other than home (e.g., school, Head Start, etc.) and does not arrive as scheduled, I will immediately attempt to contact that facility, and the parent if necessary, to determine the child's whereabouts.

b. Provider Absence

Vacation: I will take 2 weeks of vacation each year. For 2 weeks, I will require payment. I will notify you in writing of this time off at least 21 days in advance so you and your family can make alternate arrangements.

Illness: In the event that I or a household member become ill, I will notify the parents of all regularly scheduled children by PHONE CALL / TEXT no later than 6:00 a.m. that the center will be closed. Regular fees will be charged when I am closed because of an illness.

Unplanned absence: In case of an emergency situation that requires my immediate attention, I will call Ms. Shabree. My emergency back-up person has been trained in Abusive Head Trauma (AHT) prevention and will come to the center to stay with the children during my absence. Parents will be called to pick up their children as soon as possible and should do so within 2 hours of receiving the call. Each time an emergency situation occurs, I will provide my emergency back-up person with a brief orientation immediately before being left alone with the children. The orientation will include all of the following:

- The names and ages of all the children in care.
- Arrival and departure information for each child, including the names of people authorized to pick up the child.
- The location of children's files, including emergency contact information and consent for emergency medical treatment.
- Information on any children with special health care needs.
- Procedures to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

Regular fees will be charged when I am closed because of an emergency.

Planned absence: In the event that I am scheduled to be gone, Ms. Bree will act as my substitute. My substitute has received Abusive Head Trauma prevention training. Before my substitute or any other provider required to meet the staff-to-child ratios begins to work with the children, I will provide them with an orientation. Completion of the orientation will be documented on a form initiated and dated by the substitute and trainer and placed in the employee file. The orientation will include all of the following:

- The names and ages of all the children in care.
- Current arrival and departure information for each child and the names of people authorized to pick up the child.
- A review of children's records, including emergency contact information.
- Specific information relating to a child's health care needs, including medications.
- Procedures to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome.
- An overview of the daily schedule, including meals, snacks, nap, and any information related to eating and sleep schedules of infants and toddlers enrolled in the center.
- A review of the center's procedures for dealing with emergencies, including natural disasters, human-caused events, food emergencies, and allergic reactions.
- The prevention and control of infectious diseases, including immunizations.
- The administration of medications.
- The handling and storage of hazardous materials and disposal of biocontaminants.
"Biocontaminants" include blood, body fluids, or excretions that may spread infectious disease.
- The center policies and procedures required under 250.04 (2) (e).
- The provisions of chapter DCF 250 Family Child Care Centers.
- The reporting requirements for the child care background check under s. DCF 13.07 (3).

V. ORIENTATION PLAN - Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Before beginning work, all employees, volunteers, and substitutes are required to complete an orientation. This orientation includes:

- Names, ages, and current arrival/departure details for all children, including authorized pick-up persons.
- Review of children's records, including emergency contacts and special health care needs such as medications or disabilities.
- Procedures to reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) for children under 1 year old.
- Overview of the daily schedule, including meals, snacks, and sleep routines for infants and toddlers.
- Review of the center's emergency procedures, including evacuation plans for night care.
- Guidelines for preventing and controlling infectious diseases, administering medication, handling hazardous materials, and disposing of biohazards.
- Review of center policies, state regulations (DCF 250), and child care background check requirements.

VI. ORIENTATION PLAN - Emergency Back-Up Providers

Emergency back-up providers will receive an immediate orientation before being left alone with children. This includes:

- Names, ages, arrival/departure details, and authorized pick-up persons for each child.
- Location of children's files, including emergency contact information and medical consent forms.
- Special health care needs of children and SIDS risk reduction procedures, if applicable.

These orientation procedures ensure all staff, substitutes, and back-up providers are prepared to meet safety and care standards.

VII. HEALTH: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

a. Child Illness / Injuries

Children who are ill are not to be brought to the center. The following are examples of children who are ill:

- A temperature of 100 degrees F. or higher
- Vomiting or diarrhea has occurred more than once in the past 24 hours
- A contagious disease, such as chicken pox, strep throat, or pink eye
- An unidentified rash
- Has not been on a prescribed medication for at least 24 hours or continues to have symptoms of illness
- Has a constant, thick, colored nasal discharge

If a child should become ill while at the center, parents will be contacted immediately. Sick children will be isolated within my sight or hearing and made as comfortable as possible. Children should be picked up within 2 hours. If the child is not picked up within 2 hours, the emergency contact person on the child's enrollment form will be called and failure to pick up in time a written warning or temporary 2 day suspension will be given.

Children may return to the center when they are symptom free, have been appropriately treated, or have been given medical approval to return to child care. I will follow procedures on personal cleanliness and communicable diseases in accordance with licensing rules and the guidelines for exclusion of children from child care as adapted from the Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health.

I will report all communicable diseases, when required, to the regional licensing office of the Department of Children and Families, to the local health department, and to parents of all enrolled children. Parents of all enrolled children will be notified when their child has been exposed to an illness other than a communicable disease.

I have received training in first aid. I will follow standard emergency medical procedures for treating injuries. Parents will be notified immediately of a head injury. I have a current certification in infant and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), including training in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Superficial injuries will be washed with soap and water and covered with a bandage or treated with ice. Parents will be told about the minor injury when the child is picked up at the center or delivered to the parent or other authorized person.

If there is a need for emergency medical treatment, 911 will be called and the child will be taken to Children's Hospital or Children's Urgent Care. Should an ambulance be needed, parents will be

responsible for any costs. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible after contacting 911. If possible, I will ask that your child be taken to the emergency medical facility that you designated on the child enrollment form.

All medication administered, accidents or injuries occurring during the time the child is in my care, marked changes in behavior or appearance, and any observation of injuries to a child's body received outside of my care will be entered into the center's medical log book. As a licensed child care provider, I am required to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the local authorities.

b. Medications

I will administer medications under the following conditions. Prescriptive and non-prescriptive medication will only be given to children if parents have completed the authorization form provided. All medicine must be in its original container bearing the label with the child's name, dosage, and administration directions. I will not exceed the age-related dosage on the label of any medication without a written doctor's authorization. Blanket authorizations, such as dispensing pain relievers at my discretion, are not allowed.

Prior to applying sunscreen or insect repellent to a child, I will obtain a written authorization from the child's parent. The authorization shall include the ingredient strength and be reviewed and updated periodically.

c. Smoking

Smoking is not permitted on the premises of the center or in a vehicle used to transport children when children are in care.

d. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)

To reduce the risk of SIDS I will do the following:

• Children under one year of age:

- Child will be placed to sleep on his or her back in a CRIB / PLAYPEN, unless the child's physician authorizes another position in writing.
- If a child falls asleep in a swing or car seat, the child will be immediately removed from the swing or car seat and placed to sleep on his or her back in a crib or playpen.
- Child will not sleep in a crib or playpen that contains soft or loose materials, such as sheepskins, pillows, blankets, flat sheets, bumper pads, bibs, pacifiers with attached soft objects, or stuffed animals.

• Children under two years of age:

- Cribs and playpens shall contain a tight-fitting mattress and any mattress covering shall fit snugly over the mattress. Waterbeds may not be used.
- Sheets or blankets used to cover a child one year of age or older shall be kept away from the child's mouth and nose, and if sleeping in a crib or playpen, shall be tucked tightly under the mattress.

VIII. NUTRITION: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

I will follow USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) guidelines when planning meal and snack menus. Parents providing their own children's meals and snacks will be informed VERBALLY OR IN WRITING of the CACFP nutritional requirements.

No child will go without nourishment for longer than 3 hours. I will offer the following meals and snacks to all children in attendance at the times identified in the daily schedule.

- Breakfast
- Morning snack
- Lunch
- Afternoon snack
- Dinner
- Night-time snack

If your child has special dietary needs (whether due to a medical condition or personal choice) or has food allergies, parents must notify the center in writing. If your child has special dietary needs, we work closely with parents to accommodate dietary restrictions, allergies, and preferences, creating personalized meal plans for each child. The parent will provide any supplemental food.

Any special diet based on a medical condition, excluding food allergies, but including nutrient concentrates and supplements, may be served only upon written authorization of a child's physician and upon the written request of the parent.

Weekly records of meals and snacks available for your review are posted on the parent board and upon request.

Blossoming Nook Daycare participates in the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program. In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the

alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: **mail:**U.S. Department of Agriculture

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or **fax:**(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or **email:**program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

School-aged children will be offered an afternoon snack upon arrival from school.

Children younger than 12 months must be served formula or breast milk unless written direction is on file from the child's health care professional. Blossoming Nook Daycare will provide Similac / Sensitive formula for emergency only. All bottles and commercial baby food will be labeled with your child's name.

IX. DAILY ACTIVITIES: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Religious instruction/education: Blossoming Nook Daycare does include religious instruction or practices in my daily activities. We offer prayers before meals and snacks. We offer a religious education program or curriculum.

We celebrate the following occasions: (E.g., Christmas, Easter, Black History Month, Kwanzaa, Hanukah, Rosh Hashanah, Ramadan, etc.).

I plan activities according to the age and developmental level of each child in care and provide children with a variety of experiences. The daily activities include a flexible balance of indoor and outdoor activities, active and quiet play, and individual and group activities. The activities provided will expose the children to a variety of cultures and will encourage the children to use and develop language and literacy skills, use large and small muscles, think creatively, learn new ideas and skills, and participate in imaginative play. The activities are designed to provide protection from excess fatigue and over stimulation and to ensure that each child can be successful and feel good about himself or herself. Some of the activities include:

- Language development: e.g., Books, music, story time, fingerplays, flannel board stories
- Large muscle skills: e.g., Balls, hula hoops, bean bags, swinging, outdoor play
- Small muscle skills: e.g., Arts / crafts, stringing beads, pegboards, blocks
- Creative expression: e.g., Dramatic play, puppets, music / instruments, flannel board
- Self-help skills: e.g., Assist with mealtime preparation, dress self for outdoors
- Literacy skills: e.g., Books, storyboard, alphabet and writing games

PLAY is the major component of our program. Enough time, materials, and space will be provided for children to actively explore the world around them. Children will have an opportunity to use a variety of art materials and manipulative and dramatic play materials.

Infants and toddlers (children under two years of age) will have a flexible schedule which reflects the child's individual needs. They will be given individual attention, including lots of time for talking. The body position of non-mobile infants and their location in the center will be changed frequently. I will

provide safe, open spaces for children who are creeping and crawling. Infants and toddlers will be encouraged to play with a wide variety of safe toys and objects.

School-age children will have a quiet place to study or relax, access to appropriate materials and activities, and will have ample time for large muscle activities and to participate in food preparation.

Children, including infants and toddlers, will go outdoors daily when weather permits, so dress your child appropriately for the weather. The children may be kept indoors during inclement weather such as any of the following:

- Heavy rain
- Temperatures above 90 degrees F.
- Wind chills of 0 degrees F. or below for children age 2 and above
- Wind chills of 20 degrees F. or below for children under age 2

Outdoor play space: There is an outdoor play space on the premises of the center. Blossoming Nook Daycare prohibits use of trampolines and inflatable bounce surfaces on the premises.

Swimming pools: Blossoming Nook Daycare prohibits swimming pools on the premises.

Rest or naptime will be provided for all children younger than five years of age who are in care for more than four consecutive hours. Children who do not sleep may get up after 30 minutes, and children who awaken early will be allowed to get up when they wake. I will help awake children find appropriate activities.

Children under one year of age will sleep in a crib or playpen. Children over the age of one year will sleep in a bed, cot or playpen. The provider will launder the bedding / sleeping bag at least after every five uses or as soon as possible if wet or soiled.

I will allow children to watch G-rated television or videos. Children may not bring VHS, DVDs, Blu-rays, or mobile devices from home. The children will be allowed to watch television or have screen time under the following situations: Learning purposes, educational program, family movie night. Children are not required to watch television and other activities will be available during that time for children to use.

Field trips: We occasionally take field trips and other off-premises activities, including walks around the neighborhood. Emergency information for each child will be taken whenever the children leave the premises. I will notify you in writing 4 days prior to the field trip or off-premises activity.

SCHEDULE OF DAILY ACTIVITIES - 09/24/2024 *Infants and toddlers remain on their own schedule of eating and sleeping. Tummy time will periodically be provided to infants during their waking hours

Begin Time End Time	Activity
6:00 AM to 7:00 AM	• Arrival & Morning Activities Drop-off and welcome time - Quiet activities (reading, puzzles, coloring

7:00 AM to 7:30 AM	● Yoga/ Exercise/Tai Chi ● Breathing Practices ● Meditation
7:30 AM to 8:00 AM	● Breakfast (Nutritious Breakfast Meal ● Social Time at Table
8:00 AM to 8:30 AM	● Circle Time (welcome songs, storytime, weather check)
8:30 AM to 9:00 AM	● Introducing the alphabet, numbers, colors, shapes, animals of the day. ● Matching/sorting/puzzles
9:00 AM to 9:15 AM	● Morning Snack Healthy morning snack Social interaction during snack time
9:15 AM to 9:30 AM	● Free Play Learning & Exploration
9:30 AM to 10:00 AM	● Music & Rhymes, Sing-Along, Finger Play ● Instruments/ Dance
10:00 AM to 10:45 AM	● Outdoor/ Gross Motor (Running, jumping, climbing) ● Outdoor Exploration
10:45 AM to 11:30 AM	● Language Development ● What Is This? (Spoon, Ball, Cup, Book) ● What Color Is It? ● Alphabet Focus (B-Ball, Banana, Bear)
11:30 AM to 12:00 PM	● Lunch ● Balance and Nutritious Lunch ● Social Time At Table
12:00 PM to 12:30 PM	● Indoor Gross Motor ● Crawling, climbing, jumping ● Animal Movements/Dance
12:30 PM to 1:00 PM	● Nap & Quiet Activities
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM	● Counting Game & Shape Practice ● Counting w/ objects
2:00 PM to 2:15 PM	● Afternoon Snack
2:15 PM to 3:30 PM	● Arts/ Sensory Play Activities ● Music/Dance ● Coloring/Finger Painting

3:30 PM to 4:00 PM	• Dramatic Play • Firefighter • Play Cooking
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	• Closing Circle • Goodbye song and calm activity • Pick-up/Drop-off

X. CHILD GUIDANCE: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Children's behavior will be guided by setting clear limits or rules for children. I will talk with children about expected behaviors and model those behaviors consistently for them. I will state positively what children can do, using specific terms (e.g., "you need to walk" rather than "don't run"). Undesirable behavior will be redirected to another activity. Children will be given a wide variety of age-appropriate activities to choose from and will be given the attention they need before they demand it. Behavior management will be for the purpose of helping children develop self-control, self-esteem, and respect for the rights of others.

I understand that there will be times when a child will become distraught, fussy, or have periods of crying. My first action in these situations will be an attempt to determine the cause of the distress. It may be related to a basic need such as hunger or comfort, or it may be that the child just needs some extra time and attention. I understand that crying is normal, and that all babies experience normal increased occurrences of crying during their development. At these times, I will stay calm and will do whatever I can to soothe your child. Sometimes this may mean just allowing the child to cry for a few minutes and then trying again. However, there also may be times when I need your advice or assistance, and I won't hesitate to call you if I feel that it is necessary.

Time outs: I use "time-outs" to deal with unacceptable behavior. A "time-out" or "take a break" may be used when other techniques have not been successful. A time-out will be used to offer a child an opportunity to calm and regain composure while being supported by me. Time-outs will never exceed three minutes and will not be used with children under three years of age. When used, the time-out will immediately follow the behavior. I will stay with the child and talk about what behavior was unacceptable, and what else s/he might have done or said instead. Rather than use a specific time-out chair or corner, I will have the child "take a break" near the others so the emphasis is on relax /cool down rather than isolation and punishment. The child will be transitioned back to an activity.

I recognize that no single technique will work with children every time. If a child exhibits unacceptable behavior, I will request a conference with parents to consider how to deal with the behavior. If the

behavior continues, the next steps may include referrals to appropriate community resources and / or discharge of the child from care. In accordance with DCF 250 Licensing Rules for Family Child Care Centers, actions that may be psychologically, emotionally, or physically painful, discomforting, dangerous, or potentially injurious are prohibited. Prohibited actions include spanking, hitting, pinching, shaking, slapping, twisting, throwing, or inflicting any other form of corporal punishment on the child; verbal abuse, threats, or derogatory remarks about the child or the child's family; physical restraint, binding, or tying the child to restrict the child's movement; enclosing the child in a confined space such as a closet, locked room, box or similar cubicle; withholding or forcing meals, snacks or naps; actions that are cruel, aversive, humiliating or frightening to the child; or punishing a child for lapses in toilet training. These forms of punishment will never be used, even at a parent's request.

XI. TRANSPORTATION: Policy Effective Date: 04/30/2025

Transportation: We do provide transportation. We transport children TO AND FROM HOME / TO AND FROM SCHOOL / ON FIELD TRIPS in vehicles owned by the licensee, employees, and volunteers. Parents are responsible for all transportation costs, calculated using the current federal mileage rate. All pick-ups and drop-offs include a 10-minute grace period; if no one is available, the driver will continue their route, and the trip will still be charged. After three no-shows, transportation may be discontinued. Transportation must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance, and cancellations must also be made within the same timeframe to avoid charges. Repeated failure to follow scheduling guidelines may result in loss of transportation privileges.

Parents and/or caregivers will be notified in advance of the date, time, and destination of any field trip requiring transportation.

All vehicles will be visually checked upon reaching a destination to ensure all children have exited. To ensure children will never be left unattended in any vehicle.

In order to track children being transported and ensure that their whereabouts are documented from the time the child is picked up until that child is relinquished to the responsible caregiver.

We will take a written attendance checklist to make sure that all children are accounted for by name and sight at each transition, including each time any vehicle is exited. If transferring the children to another responsible adult, we will be sure the adult acknowledges the transfer before leaving the child.

All vehicles will be visually checked upon reaching a destination to ensure all children have exited. Any vehicles that have a manufacturer seating capacity of 6 or more passengers in addition to the driver have a child safety alarm that is in working order. This does not include public transportation.

All vehicles used to transport children in care are covered by ACE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY - WISCONSIN – HIRED AUTO AND NON-OWNED AUTO LIABILITY.

Annually, we will obtain and review the driving record of any person who will transport children and

obtain an inspection for each vehicle used to transport children. This does not include public transportation.

Tracking Children During an Emergency Drivers must maintain an up-to-date attendance sheet, conduct headcounts at key points, and follow the childcare center's emergency plan to ensure all children are accounted for and transported to safety. Drivers should use positive reinforcement, clear rules, redirection, and calm intervention to manage behavior and report significant issues to the childcare center.

Phones or Wireless Devices Drivers may only use phones or wireless devices in emergencies, with hands-free options preferred, and must document and report any emergency communication.

Drivers must program navigation devices before trips, avoid adjustments while driving, and prioritize safety over device recommendations. Drivers will receive a summary of any special needs, individualized plans for care, and emergency instructions, ensuring confidentiality and compliance with updated information.

XII. PETS: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Pets: Blossoming Nook Daycare does not have pets on the premises. Prior to adding pets to the center, I will notify parents in writing. If your child has pet allergies, please inform me verbally and also be sure to write them down on the Health History and Emergency Care Plan under the non-food allergies section.

XIII. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: Policy Effective Date: 09/24/2024

Fire evacuation plans will be practiced with the children monthly and tornado drills will be practiced with the children monthly from April through October. Completion of all practice drills will be documented.

In the event of a tornado warning, the children will be taken to basement level (southeast corner wall). Blankets, a portable radio, a flashlight, and extra batteries are kept in the tornado shelter area at all times. The attendance form and emergency contact information will be brought along.

In case of an emergency that would require an evacuation, children will be evacuated through the nearest safe exit. The attendance form and list of phone numbers for parents and emergency contacts will be taken along to ensure that all children are accounted for and all parents notified. Children will be assembled at the rear of daycare.

If we are unable to re-enter the building after a necessary evacuation, I will take the children to Children's Hospital Emergency Room and parents will be contacted to pick their children up within 1 hour. Our Licensing Specialist may be contacted with any concerns at (262) 446-7813

In the event of a lost child, we will check all areas of the center. If the child cannot be found, the

child's parents and / or emergency contact and the police will be notified immediately. I will notify our Licensing Specialist at (262) 446-7813 within 24 hours after the occurrence.

If the center should lose the use of heat, water, electricity, or other building services we will contact the local utility company 800-662-4797 before the center opens for status and update, I will notify parents and licenser at (262) 446-7813 of temporary closure and cause; as well as continue follow up throughout the process.

If the center should lose the use of heat, water, electricity, or other building services while children are in attendance, we will notify parents of emergency pickup within 1 hour and inform the licenser at (262) 446-7813 or via email.

In the event of a flood before the center opens, I will assess the situation, notify parents and the licenser of the closure, and arrange for clean-up and repairs with regular updates.

In the event of a flood while children are in attendance, I will evacuate everyone to a safe location, notify parents for immediate pickup, and inform the licenser, following all emergency protocols.

If local schools are closed due to severe weather, the center will not be closed. Parents will be responsible for drop off and pick up within 1 hour of regular scheduled pickup..

If the center receives a threat to the building or its occupants (e.g., bomb threat, bodily injury threat, etc.), I will immediately contact law enforcement and the parents to advise them of the threat. Depending on the nature of the threat, evacuation and/or closure or lock-down may be required.

In the event of a medical emergency, I will contact emergency medical services (911) and the parents to alert them of the situation.

To prevent allergic reactions due to food or other causes, if a child is experiencing anaphylactic shock, I will call 9-1-1 immediately thereafter I will immediately contact parents. I will keep a sheet of each child with an allergy alone with written care plan that includes instructions regarding the allergen, steps to be taken to avoid that allergen, and a detailed treatment plan in the event of an allergic reaction, including the names, doses, and methods of prompt administration of any medications (such as an epinephrine auto-injector). The care plan should include specific symptoms that would indicate the need to administer medication.

If a child has an allergic reaction that doesn't appear to be life-threatening, I will contact the parents. I will immediately contact parents if I suspect an allergic reaction or contact with / ingestion of an allergen.

In the event of a vehicle accident while transporting children, I will ensure the safety of the children by checking for injuries and keeping them calm, call emergency services (911) to report the accident and request assistance, notify parents or guardians about the incident and the condition of their child, inform the organization by contacting the designated supervisor, cooperate fully with authorities by providing necessary information, document the accident by recording key details and completing any required reports, and ensure that anyone needing medical attention receives it promptly,

accompanying children to the hospital if necessary.

XIV. PERSONNEL POLICY: 09/30/2024

The personnel policy will be available to all employees at the center.

a. Job Description

Licensee: The licensee is responsible for the following:

- Management, finance, physical plant, and day-to-day operations of the center.
- Supervision of the planning and implementation of the center's developmentally based curriculum that meets the emotional, physical, cognitive and social needs of the individual child and the group.
- Supervision of center staff including:
 - Implement and maintain written job descriptions
 - Implement and maintain written personnel policy
 - Orient each employee to their job description, personnel policies and applicable licensing rules
 - Conduct staff meetings at least 9 times a year and document that the meetings have been held
 - Ensure staff compliance with continuing education requirements

Child Care Provider: The child care provider is responsible for the following:

- Provide a warm, safe, caring environment that is kept orderly, clean and appealing and allows a child to explore and grow
- Greet each child in a friendly manner; interact with each child and encourage involvement
- Maintain files according to licensing rules
- Remain familiar with each child's medical and developmental history
- Plan, prepare, and implement daily activities (indoor/outdoor) that relate to the curriculum
- Provide overall supervision of toileting and bathroom time
- Prepare meals and snacks and oversee associated recordkeeping
- Maintain daily attendance record and medical log book
- Keep a "portfolio" of each child's progress which includes photographs, samples of artwork, writing, etc.
- Maintain good communication with parents daily using the sign-in book, notes, and verbal communication
- Work with the licensee and parents to form a positive, supportive atmosphere

- Ensure confidentiality of privileged information
- Adhere to center policies and procedures and to licensing rules
- Work all days and hours assigned; perform all assigned tasks and responsibilities; be punctual
- Perform any additional program duties as assigned by the licensee according to center needs
- Attend all scheduled staff meetings

Substitute Child Care Provider: “Substitute” means a provider who replaces another provider on a pre-arranged basis.

Emergency Backup Child Care Provider: “Emergency back-up provider” means a designated adult available within 5 minutes of the premises who can provide assistance in the event an emergency occurs that requires a provider to leave the premises occasionally for a short period of time.

b. Professional Conduct

Employees shall be physically, mentally, and emotionally able to provide responsible care to all children, including children with disabilities, and shall be at least 18 years of age. The employee must always adhere to DCF 250 Licensing Rules for Family Child Care Centers.

Staff may not be under the influence of alcohol or any non-prescribed controlled substances during work hours.

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the premises or in a vehicle used to transport children while children are in care. This includes the building and all surrounding property.

Employees must come to work in weather-appropriate, casual, professional attire. No alcohol, drug, violent, or sexual references are allowed on clothing.

Staff are always expected to conduct themselves in a positive and respectful manner. Staff are expected to come to work prepared to play, teach, and interact happily with the children and should always model positive behaviors.

c. Reporting Requirements

The employee is required to notify the licensee as soon as possible, but no later than the next business day, when any of the following occur:

- The employee has been convicted of a crime.
- The employee has been or is being investigated by any governmental agency for any other act, offense, or omission, including an investigation related to the abuse or neglect threat of abuse or neglect, to a child or other client, or an investigation related to misappropriation of a client’s property.
- The employee has a substantiated governmental finding against them for abuse or neglect of a child or adult or for misappropriation of a client’s property.
- A professional license held by the employee has been denied, revoked, restricted, or otherwise limited.

d. Probationary Period

Staff will be hired conditionally for a probationary period of 3 months during which they will perform the regular duties of the position. At the end of the probationary period, the employee shall meet with the licensee for a performance evaluation to determine whether permanent employment will be offered.

e. Performance Evaluations

Performance evaluations will be completed by the licensee at the end of the probationary period and yearly thereafter. The results of the evaluations will be discussed privately between the employee and the licensee. A written copy of the evaluation and future goals will be signed by both the licensee and the employee and placed in the staff file. The evaluation will include the following areas:

- Fulfillment of job obligations
- Compliance with state standards
- Compliance with objectives and goals of the program
- Physical, mental and emotional competence to care for children
- Dependability and reliability
- Initiative in implementing the program
- Willingness to share the workload
- Relationships with staff, parents and children
- Attendance, promptness
- Appropriateness of appearance

f. Disciplinary Process

As an employee you are expected to accept certain responsibilities, follow acceptable business principles in matters of conduct, and always demonstrate a professional demeanor. This requires the employee to show respect for the rights and feelings of others and to refrain from behaviors that might be viewed as unfavorable.

Employees will be notified of any actions that do not meet behavior requirements. If the employee fails to improve conduct after 3 written disciplinary actions, it may result in termination.

The following actions will result in a written disciplinary action. A copy will be provided to the employee, and a copy will be placed in the employee file.

- Excessive absence or tardiness.
- Taking more than 2 consecutive days off without a written excuse from a doctor.
- Exhibiting inappropriate language or behavior in front of the children.
- Misuse of program materials.

- Disregarding safety or security regulations.
- Insubordination.
- Failure to maintain company and client confidentiality.

The following actions will result in immediate termination.

- Arriving for your scheduled work hours under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Endangering children or staff.

g. Termination & Discontinuation of Employment

Employment is at-will and may be discontinued at any time by either the employer or employee. The licensee requests two-weeks written notice in cases of employee resignation and will endeavor to provide appropriate notice if it becomes necessary to end the employment of a staff member.

h. Grievance Procedures

All staff members should reflect a level of maturity and provide a respectful example to the children and their families. Grievances shall be settled in a mature and productive manner by the administrative staff within 7 days..

i. Hours of Work

Employees are expected to sign in and out promptly upon arrival and departure each day. Employees must report to work at the scheduled time.

Every attempt will be made to keep each employee's work schedule as consistent as possible; however, changes may be made to accommodate variations in children's schedules, staff vacations, and sick days. No individual provider may take care of children for more than 16 hours in any 24-hour period.

Scheduled staff hours fall between 3:30 p.m., and 4:30 p.m..

Scheduled time off for appointments, personal reasons, etc. is possible if the hours can be accommodated by substitute providers. This means that sometimes they may not be able to be accommodated without substantial advance notice, so it is best to plan ahead. Submit your requests in writing, and we will try to work them into the calendar. Please note that changes in the caregiver is disruptive to the children and should be limited.

j. Lunch and Breaks

Child care providers eat lunch with the children as part of the "family" experience to eat together. Lunch is generally from 11:30 AM- 12:00 PM . One 30 minute break may be taken in the morning and one in the afternoon whenever feasible given the needs of the children. It is left to the discretion of the providers to figure out when that may be, and it is expected that the timing may vary from day to day. During breaks, providers are still responsible for the safety and care of the children. The provider may not leave the premises because they are required for licensing ratios. During naptime (12:30 PM - 1:00 PM) is the

optimal time for a provider to have some personal time for reading, making phone calls, relaxing with a cup of tea, etc.

k. Holidays

No service will be provided on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. If a holiday falls on a Saturday, we will be closed the previous Friday. If a holiday falls on a Sunday, we will be closed the following Monday. Staff are paid for these holidays.

l. Vacation:

After completion of the probationary period, employees are allowed 7 paid vacation per year. Vacation is contingent on the approval of the licensee and requests must be submitted a minimum of 14 days in advance.

m. Sick Leave:

In the event of illness, the employee must notify the licensee as soon as possible but no later than 6 hours prior to the start of the scheduled shift so that back-up caregivers can be contacted in time to cover the shift. It is optimal if the employee is able to provide a 24-hour notice. Employees are not paid for sick days.

n. Leave of absence:

An unpaid leave of absence may be taken with a doctor's recommendation, 5 days prior notification, and approval from the licensee. The details of the leave may vary from situation to situation. If it can be accommodated, it will be. However, if it is not feasible, the leave of absence will be denied.

o. Staff Meetings:

Staff meetings will be held at least 9 times in a calendar year. The content and the dates of the staff meetings will be documented. Staff are required to attend. Any employee may request an item be placed on the agenda.

p. Continuing Education:

Staff shall receive 15 hours of continuing education annually in any of the following: prevention and control of infectious diseases; medication administration; prevention of and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions; identification of and protection from hazards; building and physical premises safety; emergency preparedness and response planning; handling and storage of hazardous materials; handling and disposal of biocontaminants; child growth and development; caring for children with disabilities; guiding children's behavior; nutrition; physical activity; transportation safety; identification and reporting of child abuse or neglect; cardiopulmonary resuscitation; first aid; business operation; or any other topic that promotes child development or protects children's health or safety. This training may include attendance at training events, workshops, conferences, consultation with community resource people, web-based training that results in a certificate of completion, or observation of child care programs. Up to 5 hours of independent reading, viewing educational materials, internet searches, or completion of a web-based course that does not result in a certificate of completion

may be used to meet continuing education requirements. Documentation of completion of the continuation education shall be kept in the staff file at the center.

Every provider shall maintain a current certificate of completion for a department-approved course in infant and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation including training in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

PARENT / GUARDIAN ATTESTATION AND SIGNATURE

I, the parent / guardian, by my signature below attest that I have received a copy of the child care center policies with an effective date of 09/24/2024 . I further attest that I have read and understand these policies, and I agree to abide by them.

Parent / Guardian Print Name	Signature
Date Signed	

Licensee / Administrator Print Name	Signature
Date Signed	

Note: Policies will be provided to the parents any time the policies are updated. The licensee obtains a new attestation and signature from the parents when updates are made.

See Attached: