



# ENSURING QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION



## The Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDC) Act

Aims to raise quality of early childhood care and education in preschools through a common licensing framework:

- Both child care centres and kindergartens will be licensed under the **ECDC Act** from 2018.
- Ensures more consistent and higher quality standards across the preschool sector.



### Licence Tenure

A reflection of the preschool's performance.

Licence tenures range from 6 to 24 months, and now, even 36 months:

#### ★ 6-month licence

Indicates that the centre has not met certain crucial licensing requirements. Such infractions might include an isolated incident that breaches licensing requirements or certain aspects of care standards that need to be improved. ECDA hand-holds and guides these centres to ensure that they improve their services.

#### ★ 12-month licence

Indicates that the centre has met ECDA's acceptable standards of care.

#### ★ 24-month licence

Indicates that the centre has exceeded ECDA's licensing requirements, indicative of a high quality centre.

#### ★ 36-month licence

Indicates that centre has attained three consecutive 24-month licences.

Preschools need to meet stipulated standards of care and education in these areas:

The requirements under the ECDC Act provide a **baseline standard** of care and education for young children in all preschools.

- ★ Administration
- ★ Safety, health, hygiene and nutrition
- ★ School experience, programme and curriculum
- ★ Physical environment
- ★ Staff training, qualifications and requirements



Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework

### Accreditation

- A voluntary quality assurance framework introduced to raise the quality of preschools in Singapore.
- Awarded to centres that have met the **quality standards** in teaching and learning, management and administrative processes.



**For Parents, your child will get a better learning experience in a SPARK accredited preschool through:**

- Activity-based learning in meaningful context
- Purposeful play
- Quality interactions with peers and adults
- Positive learning dispositions
- Holistic development

