

OKLAHOMA'S EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT VALUES AND IDEALS

SEEK TO MAXIMIZE PARTICIPATION OF THE FAMILIES OF CHILDREN IN MY CARE

I AM . . .

- Striving to engage families fully in the process of their child's development.
- Showing genuine interest and seeking to understand each family's perspective and history.
- Treating families with dignity by respecting their culture, race and ethnicity.
- Finding innovative ways to include families' informal supports as well as formal community services.

HONOR CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO SELF-LEARNING

I AM . . .

- Understanding that children are influenced by my attitude and temperament.
- Recognizing that child development is individualized and understanding that children reach developmental milestones on their own timelines.
- Acknowledging that each child has the ability to make his or her own choices.
- Providing children with opportunities to practice making appropriate choices.
- Providing children with a balance between teacher-directed and child-initiated play.

PRACTICE A HIGH LEVEL OF PROFESSIONALISM

I AM . . .

- Passionate about working with children – continually learning, continually improving.
- Honest with myself about my personal and professional development and willing to learn and grow.
- Seeking help if I have a question about a child's well-being and/or development by consulting available resources, such as the family, my director, the Oklahoma Early Learning Guidelines, Warmline, etc.

ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES, MY COMMUNITY AND CHILD CARE AS A PROFESSION

I AM . . .

- Learning about the internal and external services and supports available to help families.
- Encouraging families to seek and access resources when needed.
- Building trust with families and community partners by working with a high degree of confidentiality and integrity.
- Recognizing the importance of early care and education as a profession and speaking positively about child care's role in the community.
- Raising awareness and generating support for quality child care services.
- A member of an early care and education professional organization such as NAEYC, NAFCC, NEA, NHSA, SECA, ECAO, OCCA, OEA, etc.