



New Families - Things to Bring List

We're excited that you will be joining us soon!

Prior to your first day, we require you to set up at least two, if not 3 or 4, visits at the daycare. This allows you the chance to talk with teachers, your child to get comfortable with the environment, and a chance to prepare and sign enrollment documents.

The Program Managers will be in touch with you shortly to set up visits. In the meantime, please feel free to contact them with any questions:

- Joana in the Pre-K Program is prek@nanaimoinnovation.org
- Vanessa in the IT Program is it@nanaimoinnovation.org
- Misty in the Forest School Program is forest@nanaimoinnovation.org

If your child is not accustomed to being away from you or has never been to daycare, you may want to consider a gradual entry. For younger children, we strongly suggest that the first day at the centre is a half day, as nap time is the hardest transition and we like the first day to be a positive one. If your child doesn't nap, a half-day/shorter time away from you is still good.

Registration Documents

We will need these documents before your child can start at the daycare, as it is a VIHA (Vancouver Island Health Authority) requirement and it ensures that we are prepared in case of emergency. You can either email the documents to the daycare manager or bring them in during one of your pre-enrollment visits.

- A recent photo of your child
- A photo of your family (two copies)
- A copy of their immunization record
- A copy of their birth certificate
- A copy of their care card
- An Emergency Preparedness Kits (see below for details)
- We will also send out our policies for you to review and a form to sign by both parents/guardians. You can either bring in the signed confirmation or we will have printed copies ready.

Daily Items to Bring

For the Pre-K and IT Programs, here is a list of items you should ensure your child has each day. We provide reminders on what to bring as the seasons change. The Forest School Program has additional requirements. Please see the Forest School Handbook for more information on what to bring for this program.

Indoor Equipment:

- A pair of clean indoor shoes (please leave them in their cubby)
- A couple of extra pair of socks and extra pairs of underwear.
- We have some extra clothes at the daycare but please feel free to pack some from home, if you like.
- A water bottle (no juice, please). Please make sure you label your bottle. This must be left at the daycare. We wash these in our dishwasher every day. Please feel free to exchange them periodically.

- In the IT program only, we have a fridge for milk and/or breast milk. We also provide a water bottle for IT kids each day so no need to bring one in.
- If your child naps or likes to have a rest, please feel free to bring a comfort item. We provide all bedding items for the children. Bedding will be secured separately and washed weekly.
- Diapers and wipes (if needed). Please label you wipes.

Outdoor Equipment (weather dependant):

- outdoor shoes/ waterproof boots
- a sun hat or warm toque
- a waterproof jacket or warm sweater
- waterproof clothing (to be left at the daycare during the rainy season). Rain pants and a rain jacket are better than muddy buddies, as they allow your child the independence to go to the washroom more easily.
- sunscreen (to be left at the daycare in the summer months) or you can join our sunscreen program for \$8 a month for full time care (we use Think Baby). Let your Program Manager know.
- waterproof gloves
- please note that the Forest Pre-K will have a more detailed list that will be sent out by email prior to your start

Other Things you May Need to Bring:

- any medication
- extra glasses

Please DO NOT Bring:

- Toys or other items from home (unless it is their 'show and tell' day)
- Any commercialized clothing, toys or products—such as Disney, Marvel, Paw Patrols, Thomas the Train...
- Any foods, as we have a food program where children can eat until their body tells them they are full.
- Blankets or bedding

Please label all personal items

We have an ongoing fundraiser with Mabel's Labels. We are registered as a non-profit so that 20% of any purchases goes back to the daycare. You can also sign up for a newsletter and save 10% (then just cancel the newsletter afterwards). Here's what you do:

- Go here: https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/
- Search for Nanaimo Innovation Academy
- Click on the newsletter to get 10% off
- Buy labels (add the 10% code)
- Cancel the newsletter :)

Emergency Preparation items

We have a general emergency kit for the daycare. Please provide a personalized medium-sized Ziploc bag containing:

- A non-perishable snack
- Lightstick (the ones you snap to make work). You can get these at a dollar store.
- Family photo (two in total needed, as we request one above too).
- A positive note
- Emergency contact information
- Anything else you think your child will need.

Your child's emergency kit must not exceed a medium-sized Ziploc bag. It will be returned to you, once your child no longer attends.

Please let us know if you have any questions and/or suggestions.

We look forward to welcoming your child to Nanaimo Innovation Academy.