

Care centre concept for the ABB Kinderkrippen association

Chinderhuus Baden

Aqualino Baden

Chinderdschungel Baden

Camäleon Baden

Purzelbaum Birr

Littlefoot Dättwil

Zauberdrache Dättwil

Schnäggehuus Oerlikon

Zwärgehuus Oerlikon

Bäregarte Oerlikon

Müusliburg Turgi

Wichtelburg Wettingen



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Concept for the ABB Kinderkrippen association

1. "ABB Kinderkrippen" independently operated association

Members of the "ABB Kinderkrippen" association can become legal entities. Membership is acquired on resolution of the general assembly on the basis of a written request for admission to the board of the association.

The manageress is responsible for the administrative and personnel support of the nurseries in Baden, Birr, Dättwil, Oerlikon, Turgi and Wettingen and the kindergarten with care centre in Oerlikon.

The board of the association is involved in all tangible and intangible issues pertaining to the eleven nurseries and the kindergarten with care centre.

The functions and competences of the board are defined in the bylaws of the ABB Kinderkrippen association.

2. History/nurseries today

In October 1966, the first nursery (then called BBC) was opened in Baden. Today, the "Chinderhuus" accommodates 42 children between the ages of eight weeks to 6 years. The children are cared for in two baby groups, two mixed-age groups and one group for kindergartners.

In 1973, the second nursery was established in Turgi with 22 day care spaces. The "Müüsliburg" moved house after 34 years and accommodates 32 children between the ages of eight weeks to 6 years at their new location. Children are cared for in one baby group and two mixed-age groups.

In October 1993, the third nursery in the Binzmühle in Oerlikon was opened. The "Schnäggehuus" today accommodates 24 children between the ages of eight weeks to four years. The children are cared for in two mixed-age groups.

On 1 January 1999, the fourth nursery was opened in Dättwil. The "Zauberdrache" accommodates 22 children between the ages of eight weeks to six years. The children are cared for in one baby group and two mixed-age groups.

On 1 April 2000, the fifth nursery was partially opened in Birr. The second group was opened following renovation, about in September 2000. In July 2005, the Purzelbaum moved house. The "Purzelbaum" offers 31 spaces for children between the ages of eight weeks to 6 years. The children are cared for in one baby group and two mixed-age groups.

The sixth nursery "Littlefoot" in Dättwil opened its doors on 4 August 2003. The nursery "Littlefoot" accommodates 30 children between the ages of eight weeks to six years. The children are cared for in one baby group and two mixed-age groups.

On 1 September 2005, the seventh nursery "Aqualino" was opened in Baden. It accommodates 21 children between the ages of 8 weeks to six years. In August 2007, the Aqualino was expanded to 30 day care spaces. The children are cared for in one baby group and two mixed-age groups.

On 2 May 2006, the eighth nursery "Zwärgelhuus" opened its doors in Oerlikon. The Zwärgelhuus accommodates 30 children between the ages of 8 weeks to four years. The children are cared for in two tandem groups (8 weeks to 3 years) and in one group for children from 2 years of age.

On 2 April 2007, the ninth nursery opened its doors in Wettingen. The "Wichtelburg" nursery accommodates 30 children between the ages of 8 weeks and six years. The children are cared for in one baby group and two mixed-age groups.

On 25 August 2008, the "Bäregarte" in Oerlikon opened its doors. The Bäregarte offers full-day care with integrated offer of 1st and 2nd school year of the obligatory kindergarten, according to the syllabus of the canton of Zurich.

On 1 October 2008, the tenth nursery "Chinderdschungel" opened its doors in Baden. The nursery accommodates 44 day care spaces for children between the ages of 8 weeks to six years. The children are cared for in two baby groups and three mixed-age groups.

On 1 September 2010 opened the fourth nursery "Camäleon" in Baden. The nursery accommodates 40 day care spaces for children between the ages of 8 weeks to six years. The children are cared for in two baby groups and two mixed-age groups.

The day nurseries as well as the kindergarten with full-day care centre are available to all children of parents employed by association members in principle. Should there be any vacancies, children whose parents do not work for association companies can also be admitted.

3. Guiding principle

The range of the ABB Kinderkrippen association includes 10 nurseries and 1 kindergarten with full-day care centre, hereinafter called ABB Kinderkrippen association.

3.1 General

The ABB Kinderkrippen association is to be understood as a family-complementing and -supporting institution. The care centre facilitates childcare in preschool and school age, in collaboration with the parents/legal guardians.

The members of the association contribute to family-friendly management and are socially accountable.

The ABB Kinderkrippen association:

- supports women and men who want to, or have to, share family- and job-related work;
- allows both parents to stay up to date in their occupation;
- supports employee flexibility;
- is an alternative for single mothers and fathers;
- provides room for an age-appropriate daily routine;
- provides parents with security through its professional and humanly competent stewardship and contributes to the parents being able to focus on their demanding professional life.

The ABB Kinderkrippen association is an investment in the future.

Nurseries, kindergarten and extracurricular care are one among many measures that allow women and men to better reconcile gainful employment and family-related work.

In addition, the members of the association strive for the creation of family-friendly corporate structures.

3.2 Nursery philosophy/basic values

The care centre conveys a feeling of belonging and security to the child. It allows the child sufficient room for development, offers support in mastering new socialisation skills and allows an adjustment to kindergarten or everyday school life.

Trained personnel are on hand for the children, and they are fully aware of the responsibility of their tasks. Being together in the group strengthens a child's social competence.

The ABB Kinderkrippen association enables young people to become acquainted with the profession and offers apprenticeships.

A trained nursery school teacher teaches the 1st and 2nd school year of the obligatory kindergarten, according to the syllabus of the canton of Zurich. Trained personnel are responsible for care all around the kindergarten. The choice of activities, rest periods, free play are adjusted to the children's needs. To do so, close collaboration between the nursery school teacher and the caregivers is a requirement. The children are nurtured accordingly in their personality and in their state of development, and are prepared for entering school.

4. General goals

4.1 Education

The care centre creates an environment that is suitable for children. Mutual trust between child and educator as well as parents is absolutely essential.

It is the declared goal of the care centre to convey a sense of belonging and safety to the child. In addition, to allow the child sufficient freedom and support in mastering new socialisation skills as well as allow adjustment to kindergarten or everyday school life.

The care centre supports the child through the various developmental phases and takes up current topics that match the child's needs and emotions. The care centre places particular value on strengthening communication, self-reliance, ability to deal with conflict, building relationships, dealing with frustration and mutual acceptance.

4.2 Collaboration between parents and care centre

Both parents and care centre inform each other of special situations / events. If necessary, common solution processes are sought.

Parents are invited annually by the entire ABB Kinderkrippen association to an event for parents and will receive information on a special topic.

5. Pedagogical principles/goals

5.1 General goals

Common principle:

The ABB kindergarten in Oerlikon runs a care centre group apart from the kindergarten group. Social competency is nurtured by the two groups living side-by-side.

The ABB care centre operates according to its own pedagogical concept which serves as a guideline for the daily work with children and which is reviewed, revised and optimised as needed.

Common goal:

The ABB care centre enables each individual child, with the support of trained personnel in a protected environment and with a well-structured daily routine, its own individual development taking account of personality, needs; abilities and emotional and physical constitution.

5.2 Language

The most important means of expression and communication for a person in our latitudes is language. Through it, she or he communicates information, thoughts, feelings, desires and opinions to others. Through language, the child becomes acquainted with the points of view of the people in its surroundings, and with the imperatives and values of the culture it belongs to. Its self-image and world view is thereby decisively formed.

Language takes place in a verbal and a non-verbal mode.

Children do not need a complicated vocabulary to express their daily needs. Children abandon themselves to an internal impulse. Insofar, it is important to decode and understand their body language.

Pedagogical tenor:

- The child will learn to understand and to express itself in the German language (dialect) in the care centre.
- The child is allowed to diversify the use of its voice (e.g. whisper, shouting, etc.).
- The child learns to express itself verbally and is able to define itself through language.
- The child comes into contact with the different languages of individual children.
- The child is allowed to express itself through body language.

5.3 Eating and drinking

Eating and drinking together promotes the group dynamics and mutual consideration. The children will find their own "eating model" through the various eating habits (preferences, aversions, quantity, religions etc.). The regularity of meals helps the child to become oriented in its daily routine and to make it manageable.

Pedagogical tenor:

- The ABB full-day care centre ensures a balanced and healthy meal rhythm.
- The children's individual nutritional needs are taken into consideration as agreed (allergies, illnesses)
- If possible, the children participate in food preparation and little chores (e.g. setting the table, clearing the table, doing the dishes, etc.).
- Unsweetened drinks are at the children's free disposal at any time
- Different religions and their principles are respected

5.4 Outdoors

Pedagogical tenor:

- A multitude of nature experiences are provided on the outside grounds of the institution and in the near vicinity.
- The children's senses are stimulated and nurtured in a different manner outdoors.

5.5 Exercise

The urge to move is different in each child. Each child acts out its need to move in an individual manner.

- Through specific observation, the trained personnel will perceive the need for movement and will offer the child the appropriate room for acting out (e.g. gymnastics lesson, stroll, forest, etc.)

5.6 Rest periods / retreat

Every child needs rest periods.

After lunch, the child is offered the opportunity for individual recreation.

Retreat options such as cosy corner or book corner are available to the child at any time.

5.7 Guided sequences

Guided sequences take place in the kindergarten.

5.8 Free play

Great emphasis is placed on free play in the care centre. In this type of play, there are no limits to the imagination and the child has the opportunity to process experiences and to act out the urge to move.

Free play is mainly played in interaction with other children and without objective, the focus is on the process. The child guides the process by itself, thereby strengthening its decision-making ability as well as its ability to deal with conflict.

5.9 Rituals

Rituals provide the child with support and security. Rituals are part of a child-oriented daily routine. The care centre has its own rituals such as:

- Welcoming and farewell rituals
- Individual group rituals
- Mealtime rituals
- Hygiene rituals
- Additional rituals:
 - Birthday
 - Carnival
 - Eastern
 - Samichlaus and Advent season
 - Farewell (leaving the day care centre)
 - Seasons...

5.10 Body hygiene / body awareness / sexuality

The child is mindful of its own body hygiene and receives individual support. The child knows its own feelings, can manage and communicate them.

5.11 Attending the care centre in the event of illness

The child cannot be optimally cared for by the trained personnel in the care centre if it is sick. The child may not attend the care centre with the following symptoms, or the parents will be notified:

- Fever over 38° C
- Childhood illness, until the infectious period has passed
- Conjunctivitis
- Vomiting
- Severe diarrhoea
- Head lice or nits on the head

6. Holiday program

During the school holidays, the care centre offers a special holiday program:

7. Care centre team

7.1 Educators

The employment plan complies with cantonal guidelines. The care centre has an organisation chart.

7.2 Team requirements

- To ensure a structured, child-appropriate daily routine
- Collaboration with the kindergarten and the ABB day nurseries
- Constructive cooperation with the parents

The following is expected of the team:

- Honesty and flexibility
- Ability to deal with conflict
- Critical faculties
- Sense of responsibility

Continuing education courses are mandatory in order to guarantee modern childcare.

7.3 Apprenticeship

The apprenticeship to become a specialist in the subject area of children (FaBe) takes three years. Training takes place in three training locations:

- Firm
- Vocational school
- External courses

Following cantonal review, the care centre will receive the training authorisation. The firm takes on the tasks of training location by carrying the responsibility for the practical portion according to cantonal guidelines. Following the successful completion of the apprenticeship, the learners will receive the Swiss certificate of proficiency.

7.4 Areas of responsibility

Job descriptions are available for all employees.

7.5 Communication and information structure

Information and team meetings take place at regular intervals.

At least once a year, an individual conversation in terms of a placement determination (MAG) is conducted with all employees.

8. Furnishings

The furnishings of the day care centre are child-oriented and comply with cantonal guidelines and those of the European safety standard.

9. Setting/public relations

Good collaboration and the regular exchange of ideas and experiences are desired with the following bodies:

- Board of the ABB Kinderkrippen association
- Authorities and professional associations
- Vocational colleges
- Specialist and counselling centres
- Neighbourhood of the care centre
- The ABB day nurseries
- ABB kindergarten

Festivities, anniversaries, open house days and other functions allow employees of the members of the association as well as the public at large to get a glimpse of the daily routine in the care centre. With these activities, the ABB Switzerland care centres also make an important contribution to corporate culture.

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