



Council for
Children's
Rights

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Quality Standards for Out-of-School Time

These standards are a set of research-informed best practices to promote positive outcomes in out-of-school time programs. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community and OST Program Providers have agreed to use these standards to focus on quality improvement.

Use CFCR's OST Program Locator to learn more about OST programs in your community:

<http://www.cfcr.org/issues-and-impact/out-of-school-time-locator-map/>

Healthy & Safe Environment

Space/facilities and program environment protect and promote the physical, mental and social/emotional health of all participants.



Supportive Relationships

Program creates high expectations for participants, builds a positive and inclusive social environment and builds connections among staff, participants and families.



Learning Experiences

Programming and activities are developmentally appropriate and intentionally designed to build skills that support the physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of all participants.



Child and Youth Involvement

Program provides and supports intentional opportunities for children and youth to play a meaningful role in the program and make authentic choices about activities.



Family & Community Partnerships

Program intentionally builds and leverages collaborative, integrated partnerships among internal and external stakeholders to achieve program goals.



Continuous Quality Improvement

Program utilizes a variety of information, mechanisms, and procedures to create a learning culture, promote high standards of operation, accountability and quality and improve outcomes for participants.



Staffing, Volunteers & Professional Development

Program employs and supports the professional growth of highly effective staff and volunteers that are equipped to create an environment that supports healthy development.



Management & Administration

Program shows effective leadership, sound fiscal management and coherent policies and procedures that support quality and sustainability.