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 NAECY, NAFCC, NEA, NHSA, SECA, ECAO, OCCA, OEA, etc.

Source: Oklahoma’s Communications & Outreach Committee, Early Care and Education Partners, 2014