#### chPref (Preferred Number of Children)

This variable indicates the number of children that the current node prefers to have. This determines what the next action of the ‘Add Shape’ button should be in the user interface.

[Example: Consider the following example of chPref being used in DiagramML:

<[varLst](varLst.docx)>

 <[chMax](chMax.docx) [val](val.docx)="3" />

 <chPref [val](val.docx)="1" />

 <[dir](dir.docx) [val](val.docx)="[norm](norm.docx)" />

 <[animLvl](animLvl.docx) [val](val.docx)="[lvl](lvl.docx)" />

 <[resizeHandles](resizeHandles.docx) [val](val.docx)="rel" />

</[varLst](varLst.docx)>

In this example, chPref is set to a single node and the user interface will disable after a single node has been inserted. [end](end.docx) example]

|  |
| --- |
| Parent Elements |
| [presLayoutVars](presLayoutVars.docx) (§); [varLst](varLst.docx) (§) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attributes | Description |
| [val](val.docx) (Preferred Number of CHildren Value) | This attribute indicates the number of children that the current node prefers to have. This determines what the next action of the ‘Add Shape’ button should be. A value of -1 indicates an infinite number of children. Default value is -1.The possible values for this attribute are defined by the [ST\_NodeCount](ST_NodeCount.docx) simple type (§). |

The following XML Schema fragment defines the contents of this element:

<complexType [name](name.docx)="CT\_ChildPref">

 <attribute name="[val](val.docx)" type="[ST\_NodeCount](ST_NodeCount.docx)" default="-1" use="optional"/>

</complexType>