

Frequently Asked Questions

What are your hours of operation? Drop off is anytime after 7:30 a.m. and anytime before 5:30 p.m. We ask that you do not bring your child to school during nap time or “not on their regular schedule,” especially for young children because this can disrupt the classrooms.

What are your part-time hours? Our part-time hours are five half days, M-F anytime after 7:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. or all day Monday, Wednesday and Friday (days are not flexible).

Do you accept SR Vouchers? No, but we do accept VPK certificates. We have two VPK classrooms. We do offer wrap around care, but our VPK hours are from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m., during the school year, Monday-Friday. This time slot is free to parents, but children are required to be present 80 percent of the time.

Are you a year round school? Yes, but we try and follow the Escambia County School System. We are usually closed for two weeks at Christmas, two weeks in the summer (to have our floors cleaned), and if the county has a spring or fall break, we follow suit. We are also usually closed for all major holidays.

Do you follow the Escambia County School System regarding school closings related to inclement weather? Since we are also a teaching facility, we are also governed by the Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County. We try and follow the recommendations for both the ELC and Escambia County School System.

My child is two, will they automatically be/or go into the two year old room? No, we follow the Escambia County School System. A child has to be a certain age by September 2nd. Children will then progress without repetition into the school system. Unless there are special circumstances (during the summer), children move up to their next class in the fall.

Are you strictly a daycare facility? No, we are a Children’s Center and offer Creative Curriculum with multiple circle times during the day. All curriculum is posted in each classroom, as well as the class schedule. Some classes provide Spanish, Sign Language, Chapel, Music, Stretch-n-Grow, and for a extra fee, Tumble Jungle. All classrooms follow the Florida Standards guidelines for children.

Do you serve lunches? No, full-time parents are responsible for daily lunch and at least two snacks. Lunch and snack items should be age appropriate, with more healthy snacks in the morning. Lunches can be heated, but not mixed (DCF rules), meaning food must be sent already prepared for the microwave. Parents are asked to please provide utensils and cups, no bottles please. Part time, five half day parents are required to bring one healthy morning snack.

Are all of your staff CPR/First Aid certified? Yes, we provide multiple classes a year for our teachers. We provide basic first aid, but teachers are not allowed to perform any first aid above their certification. We only accept medication with a doctor’s prescription. No over the counter medication is allowed, with out a doctor’s prescription.

Do your teachers have any other certifications? Yes, all are required to complete the DCF 45 hour certification in their first year. For every 20 children, DCF requires at least one staff credentialed teacher. We currently have seven, with three more coming very soon. Our total occupancy runs between 75 and 90 children.

Ratios: /class sizes? We provide six classrooms:

Wee One's Class (younger one's) -no more than 10 children, three teachers (Florida ratio, 1:6)

Busy Bee's Class (older one's/younger two's)- 12 children, three teachers (Florida ratio, 1:6)

Two Year Old Class- 18 children, three teachers (Florida ratio, 1:11)

Three Year Old Class (must be potty trained)- 18 children, three teachers (Florida ratio, 1:15)

Two **VPK** (4 year old classes) (must be potty trained) - 16 children each with two teachers (no more than 20 four year old afternoon wrap around children with 1 to 2 teachers) Florida VPK ratio, 1:11; four year old afternoon care ratio, 1:20.

What are your payments based on? Our payments are monthly. All payments are due on the first of the month and late after the fifth of each month. We accept checks or cash.

Do you offer any kind of discounts? Yes, the only discounts we offer are for teachers and siblings. The oldest sibling gets 10 percent off their tuition each month.

Do your children go outside? Yes, all ages go outside as often as possible. We strive for at least twice a day, but with Florida weather, we have to be flexible. We have two playgrounds. The younger children play on the small playground in the back of the building. The older children play on either the large playground or the small, depending on their numbers. All gates are key coded, as well as all classroom doors. The entire licensed area is gated.

How do we set up a tour? The best way is to email/call and make an appointment. Parents can stop by unannounced, but we do not give tours during nap time. If the director is in a meeting, with another parent or working in the classroom, tours will not be available. Please call or email the director if you need to cancel your tour.

When is open registration? Parents may register for the Wee One's Class, Busy Bee's and VPK class anytime. In house registration usually begins the night of our Annual Pancake Super (Shrove Tuesday), and open registration will normally begin two weeks after. Parent's may register students for the Two's and Three's Classes during open registration, if there is availability. A \$125 registration fee is required for the fall semester (VPK only has no registration fee). A \$25 registration fee is required for the summer session. If you enroll your child after Christmas, the fee is half price. There is a waiting list available for all classes, all that is needed is the child's name, date of birth, and current phone number.