



School-Age FAQs

What are the credentials of the school-age staff members?

The lead teachers of the school-age classrooms hold bachelor's degrees in early childhood education or related fields such as elementary education or special education. CDC exceeds the state's licensing requirements in this area to promote quality.

Additionally, all assistant teachers in the preschool classrooms have at least two years of experience working with children. Some assistant teachers are in the process of obtaining an associate degree in early childhood education. We also like to hire high school seniors to work in the school-age programs.

Does staff know First Aid and CPR?

All staff members are required to be certified in Pediatric First Aid and CPR. Recertification is completed routinely by CDC, which exceeds the state's licensing requirements in this area to ensure that children are as safe as possible.

What other trainings are required annually for staff members?

Staff members take specific courses such as common illness, identifying special needs, and ongoing curriculum instruction. Periodically, experts within certain areas are invited to present topics that promote quality within the classroom.

Do the children go outside?

Each center has on-site playgrounds for the children. Outdoor play is very important for the child's health and well-being and is a key part of their day. Children will go outside daily, weather permitting.

How often is the room cleaned?

CDC has full-time custodians in each building to ensure cleanliness. The rooms are cleaned every night.

Do you offer transportation?

Transportation is included in tuition and there is no extra charge.

At our Hasson Heights and Cranberry centers, the local school districts have designated our centers as bus stops, so district buses pick up CDC children there in the morning and drop them off there at the end of the school day.

At our Franklin School-Age Center, we use CDC buses to transport Franklin, Valley Grove and St. Patrick students from the center to school in the morning and from school to the center in the afternoon.

What do the children do after school?

The children have a snack, obtain assistance with homework, and participate in educational enrichment activities. They also have outdoor play time when the weather permits. Each center has designated classrooms for school-age children, so they have appropriately-sized equipment and materials for their age group.

How do you help with homework?

Each center designates space for homework and a staff member sits with the children and assists them in completing their homework. The staff members will review the child's assignment journal and initial completion when the child has finished the work. Parents have the opportunity to tell us if they require their child to do their homework at the center, or if they would like to do the homework when the child goes home. Each classroom has materials such as rulers, paper, etc. to ensure that supplies exist to help the child.

What happens if there is a school delay, early dismissal or school is cancelled?

CDC facilities are open from 6 am to 6 pm. If any of these situations occur, we are open and prepared to care for the children. We will send our buses to the school early to accommodate the dismissal. This includes scheduled events as well as weather emergencies. Parents can rely on our services and do not have to adjust their work schedules for these events.

Do you provide breakfast for the children?

Yes, school-age children are served breakfast before they go to school. The centers participate in the federal food program just as local schools do. There is no additional charge for breakfast.

Are you open in the summer?

Yes. During the summer our school-age children participate in Camp Funshine. The 12-week program has weekly themes, field trips, swimming and educational enrichment activities.

The children are grouped by age and participate in activities that are age-appropriate. We utilize our school buses to provide transportation to local playgrounds and parks as well as field trip destinations. The centers are open from 6 am to 6 pm. Children usually stay for full days to participate in the activities.

How do you handle discipline?

CDC takes a positive approach to guiding behavior. First, we try to prevent problems before they occur through proper room arrangement, allowing children outdoor play to release energy, and ensuring appropriate supervision. At times it becomes necessary to redirect a child's behavior to a more acceptable activity.

We focus on social skills and self-regulation which teaches children the necessary skills to get along with others and follow simple expectations of safety.