



Family Handbook

2021 - 2022 School Year

EarlystART - St. Mark Center

2008 East 12th Street

Kansas City, Missouri 64127

Main Number: 816-994-5400

Fax Number: 816-994-5405

Hours of Operations: Monday-Friday, 6:30am to 5:30pm

EarlystART - Metro Center

3827 Troost Ave

Kansas City, Missouri 64109

Main Number: 816-286-1099

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 6:30am to 5:30pm

EarlystART - North Center

6600A Royal Street, Suite 201

Pleasant Valley, Missouri 64068

Main Number: 816-527-9560

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 7:00am to 5:30pm

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Our Mission, Philosophy, and Goals

Mission

EarlystART's mission is to provide opportunities and support to families for the promotion of the community and personal empowerment to enhance their quality of life. Our mission is to promote the wellbeing, social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children in our community and our center, by providing quality early childhood education in a stimulating and developmentally appropriate environment while supporting their families.

Philosophy

Children learn best through hands-on experiences and discoveries that stimulate their curiosity and creativity. All children learn literacy concepts through multiple opportunities in their play activities. In our programs you will find all types of writing instruments at the writing station, in the house area, and in the block areas. These activities are supported through our curriculum, *The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool* and *Creative Curriculum for Infant, Toddlers & Twos*. We also believe in the importance of exposing children to music/movement, storytelling, dance, and the visual arts. The arts encourage experiences that foster positive self-images and social competence. With the arts as an integral part of all children's experiences, the curriculum, whether it involves writing, letter recognition, numbers and languages, is experienced through storytelling, singing, dance, sculpture, and painting.

Program Goals

Our goal is to promote the social competence of every child and to empower families. It works with the whole family to create the best possible experience for the child's optimum growth and social development. It is EarlystART's goal to increase the family's skills in dealing with day-to-day tasks, as needed. To realize these goals, our organization meets the national Head Start Performance Standards which:

- 1) Promote a child's cognitive, creative, physical and social development and multi-ethnic cultural awareness.
- 2) Provide a safe, stable, and responsive program in which parents may place their child for care and early education.
- 3) Increase the family's positive approach toward their child's future health care and physical development.
- 4) Support a child's self-confidence, spontaneity, curiosity, and self-discipline.
- 5) Enhance the child's mental processes, and conceptual and communication skills.
- 6) Support the family member's relationships with each other and with others in their community.
- 7) Enhance a sense of dignity and self-worth within the child and the family.

The Curriculum

At EarlystART, we use the *Creative Curriculum for Preschool* and the *Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers & Twos* as one of the guides for children's learning and development. The Creative Curriculum balances both teacher-directed and child-initiated learning, with an emphasis on responding to children's learning styles and building on their strengths and interests. Through active learning, young children construct knowledge that helps them make sense of their world. As children follow their intentions, they engage in creative ongoing interactions with people, materials, and ideas that promote emotional, cognitive, social, physical, and linguistic growth. Children learn from active, intentional, and meaningful play. The following areas are promoted by the Creative Curriculum:

- Social and Emotional Skills
- Physical Development (gross and fine motor)
- Language
- Cognitive
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Social Studies
- The Arts
- English Language Acquisition
- Positive Adult-Child Interactions

The Creative Curriculum for Preschool offers support in the form of teaching guides, which provide step-by-step, daily guidance to help teachers plan meaningful learning experiences that engage and challenge children at all times of the day. The teaching guides feature studies, which are in-depth investigations that begin with children's questions and encourage them to apply skills in literacy, mathematics, the arts, and technology as they explore concepts in science and social studies.

With The Creative Curriculum, teachers have been trained in and are beginning to use The Project Approach. The Project Approach refers to a set of teaching strategies which enable teachers to guide children through in-depth studies of real-world topics. A project is defined as an in-depth investigation of a real-world topic worthy of children's attention and effort. Teachers observe children to see what they are interested in. They use this knowledge to plan discussions and investigations. When children have knowledge, and are interested in the topic, they engage and learn incredible things.

EarlystART Arts connects students and their families to high quality arts experiences provided by Kansas City visual and performing artists. Activities include daily curriculum-integrated activities for EarlystART students ages six weeks to five-years; exhibitions that serve as learning and engagement springboards for student and community activities; exposure to arts experiences throughout Kansas City; family engagement opportunities;

and community performances and events that serve the neighborhoods surrounding our locations.

Parents are encouraged to ask the teachers about the curriculum and the activities and experiences that they plan for children. Teachers will share detailed information with you about the curriculum when meeting with you for home visits and parent/teacher conferences. Please feel free to review your child's parent board for more information about the curriculum.

Conscious Discipline is a comprehensive classroom management program and a social-emotional curriculum that is used in classrooms. It is based on current brain research, child development information, and developmentally appropriate practices. It has been specifically designed to make changes in the lives of adults first. The adults, in turn, inspire change in the children's lives.

Conscious Discipline is a way of organizing schools and classrooms around the concept of a School Family. Each member of the family—both adult and child—learns the skills needed to successfully manage life tasks such as learning, forming relationships, communicating effectively, being sensitive to others' needs and getting along with others.

These strategies allow teachers to draw from within themselves to become proactive instead of reactive during moments of conflict. Teachers stay in control of themselves and positively influence children. Self-control is not pretending to be calm in difficult moments. Self-control is the ability to reach out and empathize with others; to accept and celebrate differences; to communicate feelings directly; resolve conflicts in constructive ways; and to enjoy becoming a contributing member of a community. As adults begin to change their attitudes and behaviors, so will the children in their care.

Preschool classrooms will use Conscious Discipline on a daily basis as a tool for classroom management and to help children learn to manage their own behaviors. Classrooms will also utilize "I Love You" Rituals, also on a daily basis along with a "Wish You Well Ritual" during circle time and a "Welcome Back Ritual" for returning students, teachers, and guests.

Infant and Toddler classrooms will utilize Baby Doll Circle time on a weekly basis. These children will use baby dolls to sing to and rock, much as the way they are taken care of. Songs and activities used by parents will also be incorporated.

EarlystART is partnering with Truman Medical Center to learn about and implement characteristics of a Trauma Sensitive School. The mission of the Trauma Sensitive Schools Initiative is to infuse resilience-building into all facets of school culture, as a direct response to the high prevalence of trauma and adversity in our urban communities.

Growing resilient schools means educating everyone in the system on how the brain works. Trauma and toxic stress corrupt the human stress response by disrupting psychosocial development and learning. Next, strategies and tools are introduced for supporting

teachers and students in the learning environment, such as exercises that promote mindfulness, emotional intelligence, self-regulation, and creative problem-solving.

Trauma can often negatively impact the lives of children as young as in the womb. This trauma includes but is not limited to family and/or community violence, family members' arrest and/or incarceration, caregiver substance abuse or untreated mental illness, homelessness, separation from their parents, and/or a family member's death.

School Readiness Goals

EarlyStartART strives to ensure all children meet the following school readiness goals prior to their transition to kindergarten. Head Start defines school readiness as children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school and for later learning and life.

Goal 1: Approaches to Learning Children will be curious, take initiative, be creative, progress in problem-solving skills, and persist in their interactions with materials, activities, and peers and adults.

Goal 2: Social and Emotional Development Children will gain knowledge of themselves and their feelings as well as feelings of others. Children will engage in and maintain positive relationships and interactions with peers and adults.

Goal 3: Language and Literacy Children (including those with dual languages) will build expressive and receptive language skills for conversation, communication, and literacy in developmentally appropriate ways along with concepts of print, letter knowledge, phonological awareness, and emergent writing.

Goal 4: Cognition, including Math and Science Children will use math and science regularly and in everyday routines to acquire skills in number sense, counting and cardinality, classification, number operations, patterning, measurement, analyzing data, spatial relationships, and identify, compare, compose and decompose shapes; explore cause and effect relationships, describe and record observations and investigations of objects (both living and nonliving), develop capacity to understand objects and events in the natural world, and analyze results and draw conclusions.

Goal 5: Physical Development and Health Children will demonstrate control of small and large muscles for movement, navigation, and balance and acquire knowledge of healthy and safe living, including personal care routines.

Goal 6: History and Social Science Children will learn about the expectations of social situations, how to participate within a group/community, conflict resolution, the relationship between people and the environment in which they live, and a sense of time and place.

Goal 7: Visual and Performing Arts Children will show interest, explore, and represent in four areas of artistic expression: visual art, music, drama, and dance.

Program Description

EarlystART has been providing quality early childhood education services for more than 50 years. Quality childcare and education services for children have always been priorities at EarlystART. We serve families regardless of their socio-economic status; state-funding, Head Start/Early Head Start, pre-k cooperative families and families needing scholarships. We are in partnership with The Mid-America Head Start (MAHS) to serve our Head Start/Early Head Start families. We have an open-door policy for all of our families; you are welcome to visit the classroom anytime during the day.

As a program, it is our goal to meet the overall needs of each child in our setting. In meeting this goal, we meet formally with parents four times a year: two education home visits and two parent/teacher conferences. We promote educational experiences by using the *Creative Curriculum* as one of the tools in all our classrooms along with *The Project Approach* to learning. The arts are an important part of the daily experiences offered to the children.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SERVICES

Screenings

We are a comprehensive early childhood program that provides screening for all areas of a child's growth. All of our teachers have been trained to administer the below screenings. Our Family advocates conduct the hearing, vision, height, and weight assessments. The Family Advocates coordinate hemoglobin testing, lead and dental screenings. Additional screenings include hearing, vision, height, weight, blood pressure and developmental (motor, language, cognitive, and social-emotional). The results from screenings provide information to you and your child's teacher to assist with planning for your child's future development and to determine if a referral for further evaluation is needed.

Developmental Screening and Referral Process

Each child is screened using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) or Preschool Observation Form (PKOF). Additionally, each parent will complete the social emotional screener, the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) at the time of enrollment. Teachers will complete the DECA two times per school year. These are a reliable and valid developmental screening instrument given within 45 days of enrollment. The purpose for the developmental screening is to get baseline information on your child's development for planning in the classroom. The result of the screening is shared with you as the caregiver.

If there are any areas of concern, the teacher and/or the Instructional Support Staff will meet with you to discuss next steps and to develop strategies to promote growth in the concerned area(s) for both school and home. If the team (caregiver, teacher, and

Instructional Support Staff) decides that further screening is needed to assist the child's growth in the concerned area(s), we will have a parent meeting to discuss the areas of concern. During that meeting, you would have the option to fill out a Request for Intervention form from our partner, Mid-America Head Start. MAHS staff will come to the classroom to observe your child and/or send a referral to First Steps and or the appropriate school district to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of your child. As the caregiver, you will play a vital role in the entire process and your input will always be encouraged.

Child Assessments

Assessments are formally completed three times a year on all children. Teaching staff are trained to conduct child assessments during professional development and attend DRDP training provided by Mid America Head Start. The teachers collect children's work samples, photos, and observation notes continuously to create a comprehensive portfolio for each child to use as a guide for documenting a child's development.

The tool used to assess children in the fall, winter, and spring is the Desired Results Developmental Profile or DRDP. This tool assesses the children's development in the following areas:

- Approaches to Learning - Self-Regulation
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language and Literacy Development
- English-Language Development (Preschool-Aged Dual Language Learners)
- Cognition, Including Math and Science
- Physical Development - Health
- History - Social Science
- Visual and Performing Arts

This information is shared with parents during parent/teacher conferences and at educational home visits.

The Learning Genie App provides a flexible portfolio and assessment rating tool for child development observation, documentation, and assessment rating. This tool enables teachers to share learning content such as e-books, songs, and parenting tips.

Medical and Dental

Each child enrolled must have a physical and dental examination completed annually. If you do not have a medical or dental provider, our staff will assist you in obtaining one. Your EarlystART Family Advocate will also work with you to obtain follow-up medical or dental care, when necessary.

If your child has a health need that must be monitored by staff, you will be required to get documentation from their physician on a form that will be given to you before your child attends the center. We will also create a Classroom-Individual Care Plan with you and the

classroom teachers. This plan will be kept in the classroom to assist teachers in meeting your child's needs.

Nutrition and Child Care Food Program

Meals are prepared to meet the nutritional requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program and in compliance with Head Start Performance Standards. Arrangements may be made for all infants, toddlers, and children who have any special foods or dietary needs. This plan will be individualized and agreed upon on a case-by-case basis.

We encourage children's independence and decision-making by practicing family-style dining. We allow children to help set the table, serve themselves, and choose the food and amount they want to eat.

Children are encouraged to take small portions of all foods but not forced. More food is available on the table for a designated time if a child wants more. Children are encouraged to taste but are not forced to eat. During family-style dining, staff, parents, and volunteers model social skills, proper table manners, the use of utensils, and positive eating habits by sitting and eating with the children, taking small portions, and being willing to try new foods.

For any child with any allergies/ food restrictions, the parents will follow the procedures of getting documentation from their child's primary care physician stating what the child can and cannot have. We will work with the Kitchen Manager to ensure that the substitutes are being made for your child. Caregivers are given a menu, along with the monthly newsletter, so that you are aware of what we are serving.

The Family Advocate will give all classrooms an Allergy/Medication List with the children's food allergies and other medical information to ensure that everyone who cares for your child is aware. The Allergy/ Medication List is updated as needed. This information is confidential and posted in the classroom with a cover sheet.

Transition between Classrooms and to Kindergarten

EarlyStart recognizes the importance of providing children with an effective transition process to maintain developmental gains they have achieved. We will provide you with information and/or workshops on school readiness and potential questions to ask as a caregiver of a kindergartener.

With commitments from community partners, parents, and ongoing communication with the local school district, it is our goal that each child and family unit is supported and ready to enter kindergarten.

When it is time for a child to transition to a new classroom, you will be informed in a timely manner in order for your child and you to visit the classrooms and meet the teachers. Children will be transferred to his or her new classroom based on their developmental

level, not just because they have turned a certain age. The Director of Early Learning and Inclusion will meet with you to plan the transition process and discuss any questions and/or concerns that you may have about the process.

Continuity of care is utilized in the infant and toddler rooms. Caregivers move with their children to new rooms for their first three years.

Parent Committee Meeting and Policy Council

The Parent Committee meeting is a monthly meeting held at one location with representation from all three schools. An elected group of Parent Committee Officers facilitates and plans the meeting each month. All parents/guardians who currently have a child(ren) enrolled at the centers are parent committee members. The meetings involve planning for center activities and specialized training for parents.

At MAHS, the Head Start Policy Council is made up of parents and community representatives who participate in the policy, budget-planning, and decision-making processes of the local Head Start Grantee. EarlyStart has two parent representatives each fiscal year to represent the center at monthly Policy Council meetings. The Policy Council serves as a link between Head Start, parents, partners, and other stakeholders. The Policy Council has the opportunity to initiate suggestions and ideas for program improvements and to receive information regarding action taken and recommendations.

Parents who serve on the Policy Council and other committees are elected at the Center level. If you want to know more about serving on a committee or the Policy Council please contact your Family Advocate.

Volunteer Program

Our programs rely on parents, the community, and partnerships with other agencies for a skilled and diverse volunteer pool. Volunteers provide a wide range of services and support that helps children and their families.

When volunteering in the classroom, it greatly enhances the adult-child interactions. Classroom volunteers read stories, extend children's play, and support children's involvement in various activities in learning centers.

All regularly scheduled volunteers undergo background clearances and are oriented to appropriate interactions with children. You will be asked to sign the volunteer in-kind form each time you and/or a family member spends time in the classroom assisting the teachers and/or interacting with the children. Volunteers do not work alone with children. They must be with and supervised by regularly scheduled teaching staff at all times.

Volunteers are always welcome. We are a state-licensed facility, therefore siblings cannot be in the classrooms with those volunteers due to safety reasons. Please arrange for childcare for your children when visiting your child's classroom. If you have any questions,

please feel free to give the Communications/Individual Giving Coordinator a call at (816)994-5400.

Parent/Teacher Conferences and Education Home Visits

Our teachers will conduct **two** Parent/Teacher Conferences and **two** Home Visits Each school year with each child's parent/guardian. Teachers will share current information related to your child's growth and development and written assessments reports. Together, you will establish learning goals for your child and give input into the curriculum. These meetings give you the opportunity to ask questions or express concerns about how assessment methods will meet your child's needs. You may also discuss any concerns about the classroom, and the school.

Fees and Collection Policy

Fees are due weekly and are collected by the front desk receptionist. Payments are to be made weekly prior to service. Invoices will be provided on Tuesday for the upcoming week and payments are due by 5:30pm on Friday. If payments are not current, childcare services could be terminated and the child may be put on the waiting list for re-enrollment. Prior to re-enrollment, the entire balance must be paid in full. Children receiving Head Start or Pre-K Cooperative services may continue to attend during the core program hours only. However, wrap around care hours will not be an option.

Fees have been prorated to adjust for the days when the agency is closed. Fees are due every week of the year except for winter break and preservice. During the breaks the agency may offer limited childcare options for a fee.

Late Child Pick-Up Policy

The center closes at 5:30 pm (3:00pm if not enrolled in wrap -around programming). We do understand that emergencies come up and you may be late picking up your children. We ask you to call us to let us know when you are going to be late and inform us of your expected time of arrival. If someone else is going to pick-up your child(ren) who is not on the pick-up list, you must identify that person in writing on the child release form. Please note that the person must have their picture identification before we are able to release the child(ren) to them for pick-up.

We begin charging a late fee at 5:31pm (3:01pm if not enrolled in the wrap-around programming) regardless of circumstances. You will receive a copy of the amount you owe for your late fee at the pick-up time.

The late fee is \$8.00 for the first minute and \$1.00 for every additional 15-minute interval per child.

The parent will sign the late pick-up form and pay the appropriate fee at pick-up. If the child has not been picked-up by 6:30pm and there has been no contact with the parent or individuals listed on the emergency contact form, the child will be considered

neglected. At that time, with the approval of the Area Director, CEO or designated staff Administrator, we will contact the non-emergency number for the proper authorities for the welfare of the child.

Returned Checks

Checks returned for insufficient funds will be assessed a \$35.00 service fee, payable immediately. Following an infraction, we will no longer accept checks from your family. You will be required to pay with a money order and/or a cashier's check.

Missouri Child Care Assistance Program:

All children who receive Missouri Child Care Assistance funds must have written documentation from the State at the time of enrollment. If you do not have the proper documentation at the time of enrollment, you will be considered a private-pay family and will be responsible for all childcare fees. Your fee status will change once all proper documentation for your Child Care Assistance funds is on file at the center.

It is the responsibility of each parent to maintain a current status with Missouri Child Care Assistance and renew it before expiration. If the parent allows their assistance to expire, the parent will be responsible for paying the applicable private pay family rate.

Please note, depending on the State's assessment, you may have a weekly co-pay for which you are responsible along with your Child Care Assistance funds.

Morning Arrival

All families are encouraged to have their child(ren) in their classroom by ***no later than 8:45am each day. For Charter classrooms, students must arrive no later than 8:00am each day.*** Parents will sign in/out their child(ren) using the KinderConnect kiosk. Children will be considered tardy at 8:46am. It is imperative that you make every effort to get your child to school on time and ready for learning. Please make sure your child is well rested the night before. If your child is going to arrive late, please call the front desk to inform them of the late arrival by 8:00am. If your child is consistently late, your Family Advocate will schedule a meeting with you to create an attendance improvement plan. It is our goal that all children receive all experiences offered throughout each day to foster their development.

For some, this will be the first time your child has separated from you for any length of time. This may be a stressful time for you and your child. Even some returning students may have a little anxiety and some separation issues for a short time. Try to establish a routine of saying goodbye with your child. Making it fairly quick and not drawing it out will make it easier both for you and your child. If you are having a problem, please alert a teacher to help. Usually, if there are tears when you leave, they clear up quickly right after you depart. Please feel free to call us if you wonder how your child is adjusting. We hope to make transitions and separation as easy as possible for both of you.

If your child has a doctor's appointment before school, you will need to contact the center's receptionist, so it can be documented that your child will be late due to a health appointment. You **MUST** present a doctor's statement upon arrival. If your child has an afternoon appointment, bring them in at the regular scheduled time before 8:45am and pick them up in time to get them to their appointment.

All parents and children must enter and exit the building through the main entrance. Children may not be dropped off or picked up from an outside entrance. To ensure each child's safety, parents must accompany their child to the classroom. **(Parents must follow proper COVID related guidelines for drop off and pick-up. At this time all adults must wear a mask when dropping off and picking up children. Adults are required to pick and drop children off at the door of the classroom.)** St. Mark and Metro Center open at 6:30am. EarlystART North opens at 7:00am. Core program hours are 8:00am - 3:00pm and children should not be dropped off before 8:00am, if they are not enrolled in wrap-around care. Head Start and Pre-K Cooperative children who arrive early can wait in the front hallway with their parents until time to go to their classroom.

Communication with Families

Communication with families happens both formally and informally. Information regarding center activities, program updates, progress towards learning goals, and parent meetings are shared using the following methods:

- Parent/Teacher Conferences (twice a year, minimum)
- Home Visits (twice a year, minimum)
- Newsletters (monthly)
- Google Classroom
- Incident/Accident reports
- Daily Reports (infants and toddlers)
- Program Calendar (annually, as needed for change)
- Informational/Event Flyers (as needed)
- Parent Boards (in each classroom)
- Phone Calls (as needed)
- EarlystART Website (www.earlystartkc.org)
- Email News (as needed)
- Text and Voice Messaging (as needed)
 - St. Mark Center: estartsmc to 816-371-5861
 - Metro Center: estartmetro to 816-371-5861
 - North Center: estartnorth to 816-371-5861
- Parent Committee Meetings (monthly)
- Minutes from Parent and Policy Committee Minutes (monthly)

Teachers and caregivers have informal conversations during drop-off and pick-up of their children and/or the program. As caregivers, you have access to each classroom's phone line allowing you to contact your child's teacher as needed. Please keep in mind that when teachers are in the classroom with the children, it is important that they are actively engaged with children.

Monthly Classroom Newsletters

The monthly newsletter is compiled and sent home each month to keep you informed about activities, parenting tips, and other helpful information. The monthly menu is sent home each month along with the newsletter. The monthly newsletter and menu will also be posted on the parent board in each classroom. We encourage you to take time each month to review both documents.

PROGRAM MONITORING

What does monitoring mean to EarlystART?

Monitoring is the process of reviewing center activities to determine whether predetermined standards for quality are being met.

Why is monitoring important?

The intent of monitoring is to ensure that children and families receive quality, comprehensive services that equip children with the skills necessary upon leaving EarlystART to begin kindergarten ready to learn. Continuous monitoring provides validation that progress towards program excellence in programming is occurring. Monitoring also provides the data needed to support requests for continued funding on the local, state, and federal levels.

Scope of Monitoring Activities

We use the Missouri Accreditation, National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards, Head Start Performance Standards, Head Start Act, and State Childcare Licensing Regulations to determine how program activities are delivered. These standards and regulations provide the focus for all monitoring activities. The following are areas that are monitored:

- ✓ Early Childhood Development and Education
- ✓ Health and Safety
- ✓ Health Services (mental health and dental health)
- ✓ Disabilities Services
- ✓ Family Services

We share information about the comprehensive monitoring activities with families during parent committee meetings. Parents are invited and encouraged to participate in the Head Start Grantee's annual self-assessment.

GENERAL POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

Licensure and Admissions

Since October 1973, EarlystART has been licensed by The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. The state monitors our center periodically for compliance with safety and health regulations. Licensure rules are available upon request for your review.

At the enrollment appointment the Family Advocate will conduct a personal interview with the parent and child to exchange information and arrive at a mutual decision about admitting the child into the program. The family will sign a code of conduct and discuss a plan for ongoing communication.

Each family is required by Missouri Child Care licensing to complete the Missouri Department of Health and Human Services Section for childcare regulation Bureau of Community Food and Nutrition Assistance Child Care Enrollment Form for each child prior to attendance. Additionally, each child enrolled is required to have up to date immunizations and a physical examination with a statement clearing said child for inclusion into the program with no restrictions.

In the event a child has allergies, food restriction or any other special circumstance the Family Advocate will guide the family to obtain an Individual Care Plan, Medical Statement to request Special Meals/or Accommodations. If a child has an Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP) or Individual Educational Plan (IEP) the enrollment team, the education team, the family and possibly the child's therapists will meet to develop a plan to ensure the child's needs are properly met while in the program.

Required Immunizations for Entry

	0-2 month	3-4 months	5-6 months	7-18 months	19 months to Kindergarten Entry
<i>DTAP/DT</i>	N/A	1	2	3	4+
<i>POLIO</i>	N/A	1	2	2	3+
<i>HIB</i>	N/A	1	1+	2+	3+
<i>HEP B</i>	1	1+	2	2+	3+
<i>PCV</i>	N/A	1	2	3	4+
<i>MMR</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1
<i>VAR</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 or proof of disease

Medication at Center

The following steps outline the center's medicine policy:

- I. Parents must fill out a licensure Medication Authorization Form completely.
- II. Medicine will be given to the child only by staff who have been trained in how to administer medication.
- III. The parent or legal guardian must be the person who fills out the form and gives the medication to the Family Advocate or Early Learning and Inclusion Director.

- IV. All medicine must be in the original container and labeled clearly by a pharmacist with the following information.
- a. Child's name
 - b. Name of medicine
 - c. Dosage to be given
 - d. Method of administration
 - e. Frequency of administration
 - f. Expiration Date

The above procedures also apply to over-the-counter medication (including sunscreen, bug spray, or fever-reducer). A copy of the parental and physician's consents will be placed in the child's master file and a copy of the Medication Authorization form will be kept in the child's classroom. Additionally, parents will be notified if the child has an adverse reaction, or has any problems related to the medication and be asked to pick up their child from school.

* All medication cups and/or syringe must match the recommended dosage.

Please note that no medication will be given to any child if it does not meet the above criteria.

Confidentiality

All information that is shared about your child and family will be kept confidential. The only information that will be shared with outside partners is done so with your prior approval. As a partner with MARC Head Start, all our Early Head Start and Head Start children's information will be shared for monitoring purposes and to ensure that quality services are being provided to families. Also, as a partner with the Pre-K Cooperation, all of our charter-affiliated children's information will be shared for monitoring purposes and to ensure that quality services are being provided to families.

Discrimination Policy

EarlystART does not discriminate in its enrollment or employment practices based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, or HIV/AIDS infection status.

Attendance and Chronic Absences

Regular attendance is essential for each child's progress. Children must maintain 85% attendance per month (no more than four absences). Parents must call the center to report why their child is absent and how long they may be out. If a child falls below the attendance percentage, the Family Advocate will meet with the parent to discuss the barriers preventing the child's attendance. If the child is found to be consistently absent, the family will be placed on a 90-day attendance contract. If the contract is violated, the child will be placed on the waitlist and the child's slot will be replaced.

Illness and Exclusion

EarlystART staff will observe all children for communicable diseases and other signs of illness on arrival and throughout the day. Your child must not attend school if any of the following signs and/or symptoms are present:

- Severe headache and stiff neck
- More than one diarrhea stool
- Grey or white stool
- Severe coughing
- Difficulty or rapid breathing (especially if the infant is under six months)
- Yellowish skin or eyes,
- Pink Eye (tears, redness of eyelid lining, irritation, swelling or discharge of pus)
- Unusual spots and/or rash
- Sore throat
- Infected skin patch(es)
- Vomiting more than once
- Severe itching of the body and/or scalp
- A fever of 100 degrees or above by mouth or 99 degrees under the arm

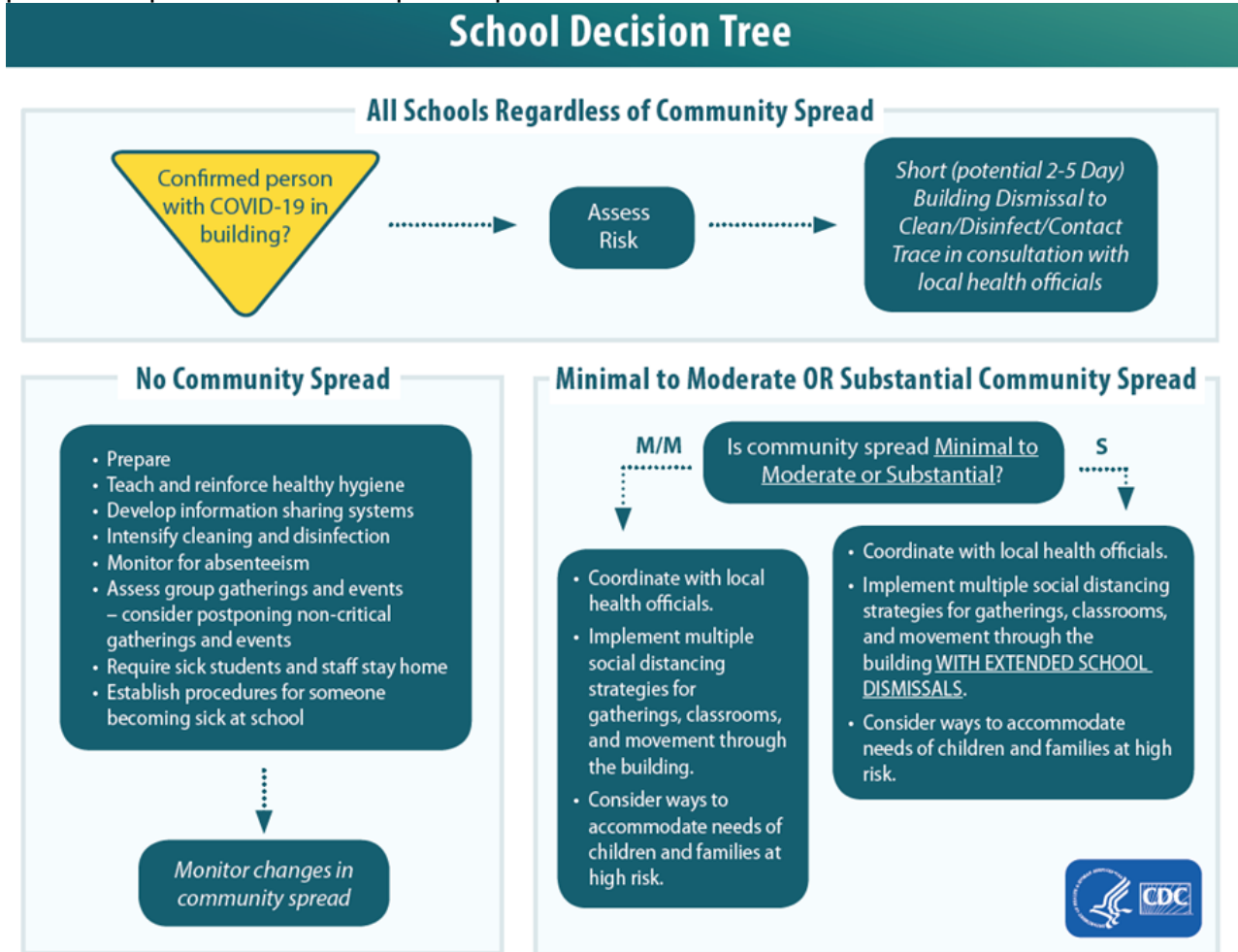
As licensed centers by the state of Missouri, we are not allowed to have a child participate in class activities if any of the above signs and/or symptoms are present. **Your child must be free from fever, diarrhea, and/or vomiting for 24 hours before returning to the center unless otherwise noted by a licensed physician.** If your child has a communicable disease, they must have a signed doctor's release form before they can return to class. Each child's caregiver will be notified immediately when a communicable disease occurs in the facility.

The child will be kept in the classroom away from the other children, until someone picks up the sick child from the center. If the child needs to be out of the classroom, the teacher will inform the administrative staff. The administrative staff will get the child and take him/her to the office and keep them comfortable until they are picked up.

We ask that all parents, guardians, and emergency contact persons respond immediately when you are called concerning your child's illness. If you must send someone who is not on your child's emergency release form, the parent or guardian must call the center to give the person's name. They must bring a driver's license or some other legal form of picture identification.

COVID Policy Guidance

EarlystART follows local ordinance and guidance for mask mandates for adults and children. See the decision tree below for decisions for monitoring operations. A full pandemic plan is available upon request.



Nap/Rest Time

Nap/rest time will be encouraged for all children. If a child does not want to rest on their cot after thirty minutes, they will be allowed to get up to play in a quiet area until nap/rest time is over, according to the daily schedule.

EarlystART provides a sheet for your child’s cot and we ask you to provide a small blanket with your child’s name written on it. The blanket must be taken home every Friday for cleaning, then returned on Monday mornings.

Tooth Brushing/Oral Health

Prevention and early intervention are based on the premise that a child must be healthy in order to be ready to learn. Good oral health for infants, toddlers, and preschool children serves as a precursor to adult oral health and is essential for a child's behavioral, speech, language, and overall growth and development. Our policy on tooth brushing is as follows:

- For children ages two and over:
 - Once daily, after a meal, Head Start staff (or volunteers, if available) should assist children in brushing their teeth using a small smear of fluoride toothpaste.
- For children between one and two years of age:
 - Once daily, after a meal, Head Start staff (or volunteers, if available) must brush children's teeth with a soft bristled toothbrush, using a small smear of toothpaste that contains fluoride.
- For infants under the age of one:
 - At least once during the program day, staff or volunteers must wash their hands and then cover a finger with a gauze pad or soft cloth and gently wipe the infant's gums. As a child gains teeth, brushing with a toothbrush will occur.

Emergency Drills

In each classroom and throughout the center, the facility's emergency plan for fire, tornado, intruder, earthquake, and other emergency drills are posted. Please take time to review these plans in your child's classroom. We practice fire drills monthly and one additional disaster drill of the program's choice monthly (tornado, earthquake, intruder, etc.).

In the event that a live disaster occurs our staff are trained in the above procedures in responding to emergencies. Please see the school's Early Learning and Inclusion Director for a full copy of our plan if you would like a copy.

Automobiles in the Parking lot

Please park in designated parking. It is not permissible to park in front of the building blocking the fire lane. Do not leave children in unattended cars. Please do not leave your vehicles idling.

Release of Child

Children will be released by the center staff to those who have been authorized for pick up on the "Class Enrollment Sheet" (must be 16+). If you are sending someone other than the individuals authorized on this sheet, you will need to call the front desk, identify yourself by providing your Kinder Connect code, provide the name of the person picking up and their relationship to the child. They must present picture identification to the receptionist at the time of pick up. The receptionist will make a copy. We advise you to

add everyone to the authorization list who you believe may pick up your child(ren). If staff determines that the adult picking up the child is unable to safely provide care for the child, the procedure will be as follows:

- The staff person will ask the individual picking up to wait while the staff contacts an administrator to come to the room. Staff can say, "I think an administrator wanted to speak with you. Please wait a minute." for example.
- If a pick-up person refuses to wait, the staff will contact the front desk for assistance and to inform them of the situation.
- The administrator will calmly approach the individual and ask to speak with them privately.
- The administrator will state concern for the safety of the child.
- The administrator will offer to contact another authorized person to pick up the child.
- You or an administrator will notify local authorities if unable to contact an authorized person or if the adult tries to take the child despite your concern. If the child leaves in a vehicle, staff will record information about the vehicle, i.e., make and model of car including license plate.
- If the individual is not the primary caregiver, a call will be placed to the primary caregiver to notify them of the situation.

Notify the Early Learning and Inclusion Director, Chief Programs and Innovations Officer and CEO as soon as possible to inform them of the situation.

No child will be released without proper information and identification. Please keep us informed of a change in your child's health, address, phone number or family situation.

Discipline and Guidance

EarlystART staff strives to teach children the skills needed to self-regulate their behavior. We use Trauma Sensitive Schools and Conscious Discipline techniques in our classrooms to assist children in gaining social-emotional skills. We believe children need guidance and understanding in redirecting their misbehaviors. We understand that children vary in their level of ability to manage their own behavior. It is the responsibility of adults to guide children in this process by setting clear expectations, redirecting behavior, being consistent with consequences, and modeling appropriate behaviors. We try to practice preventive discipline as much as possible, by carefully planning class time, keeping to a predictable schedule, redirecting inappropriate behavior, and responding consistently to behaviors and consequences.

We understand that children vary in their level of ability to control their own behavior. Young children are generally active, inquisitive, and eager to try new experiences. It is the responsibility of adults to guide children in this process by setting clear limits and expectations, redirecting behavior, enforcing consequences and modeling expected behavior. By establishing expectations that are age appropriate; providing a consistent and supportive environment; anticipating and eliminating potential problems, we discourage undesirable behaviors.

The following is EarlystART's Guidance and Discipline Policy:

Policy: EarlystART will provide positive guidance strategies for all staff to respond to children in an appropriate and consistent manner. EarlystART will only use positive strategies that are consistently implemented in the classroom to help children manage their own behavior. Staff may never use physical punishment, psychological abuse, or coercion when disciplining a child. Conscious Discipline will be the main form of discipline and guidance used at EarlystART. This policy is in place to limit or eliminate the use of suspension, expulsion and any other exclusionary measures. EarlystART acknowledges and complies with federal and state civil rights laws.

Procedures:

1. All staff interacting with children will use a variety of positive behavior management techniques to prevent and minimize children's challenging behaviors. Techniques may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Planning and consistently implementing predictable routines
 - b. Creating, posting, and following simple classroom rules
 - c. Greeting each child and family member daily by name
 - d. Consistently modeling appropriate behavior (i.e., kindness, cooperative behavior, and respect)
 - e. Using proximity to ensure children are actively engaged in positive activities and experiences
 - f. Scanning and moving about the room regularly to anticipate supervision needs
 - g. Communicating and planning as a team for supervision of all children during all types of activities (small groups, large groups, transitions, interest areas, toileting, naps, etc.)
 - h. Planning transitions with limited time using *The Creative Curriculum Mighty Minutes* as a guide.

2. Acceptable guidance techniques include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Guiding children by setting clear, consistent limits for behavior. Preschool children (threes to fives) will help frame these limits by setting classroom rules that foster fairness and respect for self, others, and property, helping children understand the reason for each rule.
 - b. Stating the expected behavior to children. (i.e., "Use your walking feet" instead of "Don't run".)
 - c. Safety is first. If the child is acting in a way that is unsafe; redirect behavior, employ calming techniques, and/or describe appropriate behavior.
 - d. Being observant and heading-off problems before they escalate. Look for warning signs that a child is having difficulty (i.e., enters classroom angry, upset, or crying; unhappy facial expression; shifting quickly between activities; raised voice; etc.). Take the child to a quiet area to see if he/she

- will voice what is wrong. If possible, stay with the child until he/she calms down or redirect the child to an activity that will interest him/her.
- e. Viewing a child's inappropriate behavior as an opportunity to model, teach, and help the child develop self-regulation of appropriate socialization skills.
 - f. Teachers, providers, and other staff will coach children to express their feelings verbally and solve problems with others by using their words. Staff will be available to assist children whenever situations arise that require this type of intervention.
 - g. Having consistent routines, which are also posted in a language the child can "read" and are followed daily. Children are told ahead of time when there are changes in the daily schedule. Children are told what is going to happen as well as expectations for their behavior.
 - h. Offering a final choice if a child continues to test the limits. (i.e., "Chairs are for sitting. If you continue to climb on the chairs, you will have to leave this area.")
3. Staff are prohibited from using negative and punitive actions to control children's behavior. Use of the following (but not limited to) are prohibited:
 - a. Any action that inflicts bodily harm, pain, or damage to a child including, but not limited to hitting, slapping, twisting, squeezing, grabbing, pinching, pulling, pushing, spanking, yanking, shaking, biting, any kind of rough handling
 4. Excessive physical exercise, excessive rest, strenuous or bizarre postures
 5. Negative adult responses: yelling, belittling, name calling, ridiculing, shaming, blaming, insulting, threatening, or other forms of abusive language in relation to the child or family members
 6. Any form of emotional abuse including shaming, rejecting, terrorizing, extended ignoring, or corrupting a child
 7. Compelling a child to eat or have in his/her mouth food, soap, spices, or any foreign substance as a form of punishment
 8. Exposure to extreme temperatures
 9. Withholding of food, access to the bathroom, or gross motor/outdoor play
 10. Frightening or humiliating punishment, including threats of physical punishment
 11. Abusive, sarcastic, or profane language
 12. Physical restraint without prior written parental permission, an individualized plan, and documented staff training
 13. Isolation or placing a child in an adjacent room, hallway, closet, darkened area, play area, or any other space where a child cannot be seen or supervised
 14. Binding or tying to restrict movement (including a car seat or infant equipment)
 15. Toilet learning/training methods that punish, demean, or humiliate a child

Families will not be permitted to use the techniques above with their children while on the premises.

Aggressive Behavior

Children who exhibit aggressive behaviors may not know how to express their feelings in constructive ways. Consider what a child needs rather than what the child is doing. A child's aggressive physical behavior may include, but not be limited to, biting, hitting, scratching, pushing, kicking, and grabbing. Verbal behavior may include, but not be limited to, swearing, threats, and name calling. Identified partnership staff will document the child's aggressive behaviors, share behavior concerns at a partnership staffing, and define and implement intervention strategies.

1. The Student Success Coordinator will develop an action plan of support and work collaboratively with staff and family in coordination of a formal action plan. Strategies to support positive behaviors include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Offering intentional, individualized, and meaningful experiences throughout the daily routine that promote active learning
 - b. Adjusting schedules and length of activity times for individualization
 - c. Spending time talking to the children each morning to help children transition into the classroom
 - d. Limiting the number of transitions in a daily routine
 - e. Increasing one-on-one supervision when possible
 - f. Noticing times and events that might cause children to exhibit aggressive behavior
 - g. Having children work with acceptable peers
 - h. Observing to see where children are at all times
 - i. Positioning self near children who need support to intervene when necessary (shadowing)
 - j. Providing a safe place for children to calm down or express their feelings
 - k. Talking with the child's family to see if there have been changes in the child's home routine or reasons for the child's negative behavior.

2. If a child's behavior has not improved, steps should be followed to request additional support from the Student Success Coordinator, the Education Manager and the Early Learning and Inclusion Director.

Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

All EarlystART staff and management are mandated reporters by local and state laws and are required to report suspected cases of child abuse and neglect. Suspected cases of child abuse and neglect are reported to the Missouri State Hotline in Jefferson City. The toll-free number is 1-800-392-3738 for emergencies and online at [Missouri Department of Social Services](#) for non-emergencies.

If an EarlystART staff member is suspected or observed abusing or neglecting a child, the staff member will be suspended with pay immediately while an investigation is conducted by EarlystART directors to determine the plan of action. The parents of the child will be notified, and a report of the claim will be reported to the appropriate agencies. EarlystART will allow the proper authorities to determine the outcome of whether or not

the claims are substantiated. Any persons involved in the claim will not be discussed amongst staff and names will be kept confidential. The rights of the children and the accused persons will be protected by all EarlystART staff members.

Screen Time Policy

Because we care about the health and wellbeing of the children in our care, we follow the American Academy of Pediatrics' Recommendations on Screen Time:

- Children under two should have no screen time.
- Children ages two and over should watch less than 30 minutes per week at childcare, and less than two hours per day total.

Toys from Home

Please do not send or let your child bring toys to the center. They may misplace it, another child may take it, or it may get broken.

Please send toys back to the center if your child accidentally takes a center toy home without approval from the teacher.

Food and Drinks

We participate in a child and adult food program. Because of this participation, outside food is not allowed. Please do not send your child to the center with food and/or drinks. We provide a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snack for all children daily. We encourage all children to be at school by 8:30am when breakfast is served, so that they can start their day with a well-balanced breakfast.

Money

Students are not to bring money to the center under any circumstances.

Parent Information Board

There is a Parent Information Board in all classrooms. On the board, you will find the classroom Weekly Lesson Plan and Individualization Plan, Monthly Menu, and program updates. Please take time several times a week to review the board for updates and changes. Also note the documentation that is posted in the classroom and hallways. This will let you know the work that is occurring in the classroom and the learning that is taking place.

Resources

Our school has a wide variety of resources available. Resources are available upon request; please see your Family Advocate.

Substitutes

There will be a time when the center may need to use substitute teachers to make sure we are meeting the adult/child ratio. If you have any questions regarding your child's substitute teacher, please feel free to see the Early Learning and Inclusion Director.

Inclusion Program

EarlystART is an inclusion program. We accept children of all ability levels. We make every effort to ensure that transitions into the centers are productive and successful for all children, including children with disabilities. We work closely with MARC and the local education agencies to ensure that children receive the services they need to be successful. We also work closely with parents to make sure that you are an advocate for the rights of your child. Some children have special needs for which an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) may be developed. The teacher will incorporate the IEP or IFSP goals into the weekly classroom activities and experiences.

Change of Clothing

Each child must have a complete change of clothing in their cubby at school at all times. Providing these clothes will ensure that your child remains in clean, dry clothing all day. It is important that you label your child's clothing with their name before bringing it to the classroom. Please make sure to send clothing for the season of weather that we are currently experiencing.

Infants and Toddlers

We will help support you if you have difficulty purchasing supplies for your infant(s), such as formula, wipes, and bottles. Please feel free to talk with your child's teacher or your Family Advocate before you are in a crisis. Your Family Advocate will direct you to several community partners that provide dignity-based assistance to families. The infants and toddlers have daily activity sheets where you may provide comments on in the morning, even though you may also verbally share with your child's teacher. Please take time to get your child's activity sheet at the end of the day and discuss with your child's teacher any questions you may have regarding your child's day. Children in infant and toddler rooms are not allowed to wear the following items in their hair at the center:

- Beads of any size
- Hairballs
- Rubber bands of any kind
- Barrettes
- Hair Clips

This is for the safety of the children. These items are potential choking hazards. If your child arrives with any of the aforementioned items in their hair, or otherwise, you will be asked to take them out. Failure to do so will result in your child not being accepted for the day and you still will be charged your regular weekly fees.

Safe Sleep

Infants under the age of 12 months will be placed on their backs for sleeping. Prior to sleep, teachers will check the infants to ensure they are comfortably clothed so they do

not overheat; that all bibs, necklaces, and garments with ties or hood are removed; and that the temperature in the room is comfortable for a lightly clothed adult.

Infants will be directly supervised by sight and sound at all times. While supervising infant sleep, teachers will be assessing for the following:

- a. Breathing: Teachers will look for the rise and fall of the chest and stomach to observe for breathing.
- b. Temperature: Teachers will monitor that sleeping infants do not get too hot. Signs that an infant is too hot include sweating, damp hair, flushed cheeks, heat rash, and body temperature by touch, restlessness, and/or rapid breathing.
- c. Absence of head covering: A teacher must ensure that sleeping infants' heads remain uncovered during sleep and to readjust as needed.

Birthdays and Special Occasions

The curriculum used at EarlystART is based on sound early childhood principles and developmentally appropriate practices. Teachers observe and listen to the children and develop lesson plans and projects that promote physical, cognitive, emotional, and social growth based on those interests and what is developmentally appropriate for the children in the classroom. Young children can be overstimulated by the consumerism associated with major holidays (Halloween, Christmas, Easter, etc.) We are interested in facilitating an environment which offers meaningful experiences for children reflective of family traditions from all children in the classroom. There will not be an emphasis on specific holiday celebrations or activities. Conversations about the diversity of ways people celebrate are encouraged and will be included as part of planning with families to create a multicultural and anti-bias curriculum.

To ensure all children get celebrated equally your child's birthday will be celebrated in the classroom. Your child's teacher will plan a special activity or snack. **We ask that you not bring in treats, balloons, or gifts.**

Center Field Trips

Field trips are scheduled for the children to foster their learning and awareness of many different experiences in the community. Parents are welcome to go on all our field trips to assist the staff in ensuring that our children are safe. Our goal is that all children take part in scheduled field trips; if your child needs additional assistance, we may request family assistance on the field trip. The teacher will notify the family of the request in a timely manner.

Holidays

EarlystART will be closed on the following holidays:

New Year's Day	Independence Day
President's Day	Labor Day
MLK Day	Thanksgiving Break
Memorial Day	Winter Break
Juneteenth	Spring Break

Written notices will be posted, and you may refer to your center's calendar.

Staff Development Days

In our Annual EarlystART Calendar, you will see specific dates when the center will be closed for Staff Development Days. These closings allow teachers and other staff to receive required training and to spend time on their professional growth and development. We will also post notices around the center as a friendly reminder of the centers' closing dates as they approach.

Inclement Weather

If EarlystART is closed for inclement weather or other emergencies, the following are the sources that are available for you to use to find out this information.

Text message notification: signing up is required to receive messages:

- St. Mark Center: estartsmc to 816-371-5861
- Metro Center: estartmetro to 816-371-5861
- North Center: estartnorth to 816-371-5861
- Agency's website: www.earlystartkc.org
- Facebook page: earlystART (facebook.com/earlystartkc)
- Follow us on Twitter: @earlystartkc (twitter.com/earlystartkc)
- Follow us on Instagram: @earlystartkc
- Local television stations: KMBC 9 and KSHB 41 (*weather related only*)

Please supply EarlystART with up-to-date emergency contact information so that we may contact you about closures or emergencies.

Smoke-Free Environment

EarlystART is a smoke-free environment. We ask our staff and parents not to smoke, vape, or use tobacco products anywhere on EarlystART property. This is a request that promotes good health for all.

Weapons

To ensure the safety of all children, staff and families, weapons are not allowed on the premises.

Open Door Policy

We have an open-door policy at the center. You do not need to make an appointment unless you need to meet with your child's teacher or support staff. You are free to visit in

your child's classroom at any point during the daily schedule and we encourage you to attend field trips. Additionally, we encourage parents to share their hobbies, skills, and abilities with the children. If you would like to come and share, please communicate with your child's teacher so that you can be added to the daily schedule. If you need to meet with your child's teacher, please feel free to schedule a time, so that they can give you the time and attention needed. **Please feel free to contact the office if you have any questions or concerns.**

Parent Grievance/Complaint:

Parents and teachers are encouraged to have a dialogue to discuss any concerns: The following procedures will govern the hearing and the resolution of parent complaints if it cannot be resolved with the specific center staff person:

1. Complaints are submitted in writing to the Early Learning and Inclusion Director. The concerned party will receive a response within 24 hours. If the concern is not resolved to the satisfaction of the person or entity concerned, the person or entity proceeds with step 2.
2. The concerned party shall submit a written concern to the Area Early Learning and Inclusion Director and the complaint response from the Early Learning and Inclusion Director. The concerned party will receive a response within three (3) working days or sooner. If the concern is not resolved to the satisfaction of the person or entity complaining, the person or entity proceeds with step 3.
3. The concerned party shall submit a written concern to the Chief Executive Officer and the complaint response from the Area Early Learning and Inclusion Director and the complaint response from the Early Learning and Inclusion Director. The complaining party will receive a response within three (3) working days or sooner.

We will make every effort to find a solution while maintaining confidentiality for all parties involved.

Please note that there will be two or more administrators who will sit in and listen to all complaints made regarding the staff, EarlystART, the program, and other areas of concern.

Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

In order to maintain a stable, consistent, and respectful environment that is conducive to learning, EarlystART parents are expected to abide by the following guidelines:

1. When providing behavioral guidance to children at our EarlystART programs or in the facilities, parents will utilize positive methods. The use of corporal punishment (i.e., physically striking a child or inflicting physical punishment) or verbal humiliation is prohibited.
2. Parents will treat EarlystART staff and other EarlystART parents and volunteers with courtesy and respect. Verbal or physical threats towards staff and/or other parents are unacceptable. Cursing or swearing is not allowed at any time on the premises.
3. Disputes that arise between adults will be discussed in a calm manner and in a location away from children.
4. Parents, staff, and volunteers will not smoke on the property.
5. Concerns that are not able to be resolved with the assistance of teaching staff will be addressed in accordance with the Grievance Policy outlined in the Parent Handbook.
6. In your daily conversations with each other, please remember to be respectful and ever mindful that little ears may be listening...and eyes watching.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Acknowledgement of Receipt of Parent Handbook

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the EarlystART Parent Handbook. I understand that it contains important information on policies and procedures. I realize the handbook is not intended to cover every situation which may arise but is simply a general guide in which to refer.

I understand that it is my responsibility to familiarize myself with this Handbook and that I agree to follow the provisions and other policies/rules of the center.

I acknowledge and understand that this Parent Handbook supersedes and replaces any and all prior handbooks or materials previously distributed.

Please note: EarlystART policies and procedures are subject to change to reflect the needs of the program, children, and families we serve.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Child's Name: _____

Room: _____

Child's Name: _____

Room: _____

Child's Name: _____

Room: _____

Child's Name: _____

Room: _____

Please complete and return pages 28 and 29 to the EarlystART front desk receptionist or to your Family Advocate.