Our mission at the Center for Child Development is to serve and act on behalf of the needs, rights, and well-being of all children, their families and university students.

Mission

From the Director

Welcome to Fall Semester

The Center staff would like to WELCOME each family to the Center for Child Development and thank you for choosing to be a part of our program. You have chosen a nationally Accredited Early Childhood Program and 4 STAR ND Bright & Early program for your child’s care and education. Our goal is to develop a partnership with parents for your child’s education and prepare children for life success.

Face Coverings Required

Beginning August 23, 2021, teachers, parents, and university students are required to wear a face covering in the Center for Child Development. Also, if you have a child five years or older coming with a parent to pick up a child, they are also required to wear a face covering.

North Dakota Department of Health has provided childcare programs with the COVID-19 Childcare and School Attendance Guidance to help guide the Center and families in making decisions on attendance and exclusion periods for positive COVID-19 cases and close contacts. For additional support please see the following COVID-19 prevention resources for childcares. Schools | Child Care | Universities | Department of Health (nd.gov)

FREE Developmental Screening

Pediatric Partners will complete FREE developmental screenings on all children (with written parental permission) on September 14 and 15, 2021. Their team will start at 8:30 AM and screenings will take place in each classroom. Pediatric Partners will return in January to re-screen a few children as needed. Parents of screened children will receive written results above their child cubby.

FREE Vision Screening by Lions of North Dakota

When: Thursday, September 23, 2021
Time: 9:00 AM
Where: Toddler Nap Room

Wish List

Apples
Zucchini
Boy & Girl Dress up items (shoes, vests, sports jackets, sport jerseys, dresses, skirts, etc.)

Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 21, 2021
Time: 12:00PM-1:00PM
Location: Room 269, EML Hall

The Center would like to invite all parents to participate in our first Parent Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 21.

The purpose of the Parent Advisory Committee is to advise and assist Center staff on implementation of curriculum, events and activities for children and their families.

Please bring a sack lunch if you wish. This meeting is informal so come and go as your schedule allows. Agenda will be posted in the near future.

NDSU has been supportive to keep everyone healthy. In EML and FLC buildings, the ventilation systems have been improved. Ozone-free bipolar ionization and MERV 13 filters have been added to the system to catch smaller air particles. Thank you NDSU!!!
From the Director, continued…

The US Center for Disease Control and Prevention states that vision disability is the single most preventable disabling disease among children. Preventive screening is part of the mission of the ND Lions. With parent permission, they will come to the Center and complete a non-invasive mobile screening with no discomfort to a child. Their screening measures:

- Anisometropia-compares refraction of both eyes
- Astigmatism-check corneal curvature
- Myopia-checks nearsightedness
- Hyperopia-checks farsightedness

A Parent Consent form will be placed above your child’s cubby for completion no later than September 13th. If a child is identified as having a vision concern, the parents will be notified and encouraged to see an eye care professional for a comprehensive eye exam.

Do I Really Need to Sign My Child In and Out Daily?

Yes! We cannot stress the importance of this enough for your child’s safety! Our sign-in and out sheets provide:

1) Verification your child is present in case of an emergency or safety drill.
2) Verification for child head counts throughout the day as the child moves from one area to another.
3) Documentation of the USDA Food Program that your child was present when meals are served.
4) Documentation of parent initials of which parent picked up your child at the end of the day.

The Director will call you with a reminder if you are not signing your child in and out daily.

Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Dependent Care

The Center for Child Development has been coordinating with the Payroll Office on the Flexible Spending Dependent Care plan. Flex participants are no longer able to send in one claim form for the entire year and automatically be reimbursed. ASIF Flex requires that a claim form be sent in for each reimbursement and it must be signed off on by the Director. The Director will not be able to sign off on these forms until AFTER the service is provided and then parents will be able to submit the form to ASI Flex. It is very important that parents fill out all necessary information (top 2 sections of the form) BEFORE the Director will be able to sign off. When the Director certifies the form, it will be placed above your child’s cubby the first week following the care period. Parents are asked to submit 10 months of completed forms at one time to the Director for the period of September 2021 - June 2022. She will keep them in a file, certify them monthly and return to you using the process above. Claim forms can be found on the ASIFlex website www.asiflex.com and the options to submit the claim are listed on the bottom of the form (fax, mail, online).

Stacey & Tasha >>>

Infant/Toddler EML 161 Happenings

Let’s Celebrate – Melvin turns 1 on the 28th!

Featured Family

This month we will be starting our Featured Family board featuring the teachers and their families. It is located under the classroom daily sign in and out sheet. Featured Family is a great way to learn about your family and the children love to look at their family photos. A sign-up sheet is located near the sign in and out sheet. If you are interested in participating, please add your child’s name to a month. We look forward to learning more about your family!

Fall Clothing

As fall temperatures arrive, please bring a sweatshirt, socks, and a hat for your child. We will plan to go outside to the playground or on campus walks daily. Remember to label ALL clothing items as well. This helps all teachers know which clothing items go to which children.

Friendly Reminders

- Wash your child’s hands upon arrival for 20 seconds. Also, when parents visit the classroom, please remember to wash your hands as well.
- Label all items being brought into the classroom.
- If you are off campus for the day or out of town, teachers ask that you let us know in advance. This is for emergency purposes if we need to contact you!
- All parents need to provide a current family photo to post above your child’s cubby for emergency and identification purposes. Also, if you have 1-3 extra family photos, we will place them in your child’s cubby.
Featured Family Board

Each month a family is displayed on the “Featured Family Board” located under the classroom telephone. Starting this month, parents will be asked to sign up for a month to feature their family. Teachers will send home the board and upon return, display the pictures for all to enjoy. A reminder note and the board will be sent home one week prior to the start of your chosen month. The sign-up sheet will be placed on the “Sign In/Out Clipboard” at the beginning of September so families who would like to participate may have an opportunity to choose Featured Family month. The children LOVE to look at their pictures!

Welcome New and Returning Students

We are excited to have five returning Student Assistants this year including Aubrey, Claire, Erin, Hayley, and Natalie who have been a part of our classroom for 2-4 years! Also a warm welcome our new Student Assistants Nicole and Grace! Abby is a 4 credit Field Experience student excited to play with the children and implement learning activities. Their pictures will be displayed near the parent bulletin board along with a short biography so you are able to get to know a little bit about each student.

Teacher Office Hours

Mary and Ariel will each have scheduled office hours each week. Once these hours have been established, Mary will send an email to parents containing the days and times. Scheduled office hours are used for parents to meet with teachers, write lesson plans, change the room environment, and work on classroom/program goals. Remember, we are happy to set-up meeting times with parents as requested.

Outdoor Clothing

As the weather brings cooler mornings and warm afternoons, please bring a light jacket for your child to wear outdoors in the mornings for your child’s comfort.

Garden Harvest Update

The toddlers have been picking tomatoes and cantaloupe from our garden. They have been watching the tomatoes ripen and the cantaloupe grows larger. This has been a great opportunity for the children to follow one and two step directions (pick only red tomatoes and put them in your pail) and gain mathematical skills by counting what we have picked and discussing the variation in size and weight of the fruits and vegetables.
Welcome Back Student Assistants

We are excited to welcome back some Student Assistants from last year and get to know a few new Students this year. Please see their picture/name and brief biography about them near the bathroom in our classroom.

Warm Welcomes!

The preschool room like to welcome Zarra with parents, Tristin and Devin. They joined our classroom mid-August and are getting to know some friends and the classroom routines.

Classroom Routines

As many new friends and families have joined our classroom, teachers would like to share some information for families to help in your child’s adjustment to the room.

- **Pick Up Time:** Our academic year hours are 7:30-5:30. At pick up please try to arrive by 5:15 so your child can make a smoother transition from school to home, has time to clean up their play materials and you have a few minutes to discuss your child’s day with the teacher. This will allow the teacher to leave on time for her family.

- **Items from home:** Please help your child keep their home toys in the car or at home. When a special car, airplane or animal is in their cubby, other children are curious about it and may want to play with it. This often makes for upset friends. Snacks for your child should be kept with you also. Our cubbies are not sanitary for food items. A cuddly rest animal is always welcome for your child and can be kept clean in their nap bag.

Fall Clothing

Fall often brings cooler mornings. Please have a sweatshirt or light jacket in your child’s cubby to wear for morning outdoor play. Please check your child’s extra clothing box, located in the bathroom, for extra seasonal clothing. We do go out each day both morning and afternoon.

Nap Bags

As children are growing, independence in tasks is one of our self-help goals. The children are very proud when they can complete tasks with minimal assistance from the teacher. We ask parents to please have a zip up nap bag, labeled with your child’s first name, that is a backpack or small duffel. This allows the child to fit everything inside and begin to learn to zip. Nap items such as a small pillow and light blanket that fit easily inside the bag allows your child to zip it up independently. We will always help your child pack items up, but they are so proud when they can do it independently!

Primary Care Groups

Each child has been assigned to a primary caregiver in our classroom. This person meets with you for Parent-Teacher conferences and complete your child’s developmental assessment. Both of our teachers work together to provide a quality curriculum for your child’s learning. We will plan appropriate lessons for all children to work towards their developmental goals. You may talk to either teacher about any concerns you have about your child’s development when you drop off or pick up your child.

What if I Want to Meet with a Teacher Privately?

Have a question on concern about your child or our classroom routine? Sometimes is difficult to talk privately with a teacher at drop off or pick up times. Please remember that parents can always call, email, or meet with a teacher face to face to discuss your child’s experiences. Just let us know a convenient time to visit.

Garden Harvest

Have you noticed our garden lately? We have been harvesting tomatoes, beans, and peppers! The children are enjoying them with our lunch and snack meals. Some children have begun trying new vegetables! We are also looking to prepare salsa and ketchup with the children with all our tomatoes! The squirrels have also been enjoying our tomatoes, so we share.

*Published by the Center for Child Development, Department 3142 Box 6050, NDSU, Fargo, ND 58108, (701) 231-8281, Room 261, E Morrow Lebedeff Hall*