



KinderCollege

Parent Handbook

Lewis-Clark State College
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LETTER TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Lewis-Clark KinderCollege. We are pleased you have chosen us to provide quality daily care and an educational experience for your child. It is our hope that this handbook will help you to better understand policies and procedures and ensure that your child will realize maximum benefits from our program.

Parents and guardians are an integral part of our Center. Quality care must be facilitated by open communications between parents and staff. You are encouraged to ask questions, express concerns, and offer suggestions as you feel necessary. Our mutual concern is quality care for your child.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The goal of our child care program is to encourage and support the social, cognitive, emotional, and physical development of each child and to provide opportunities for self-exploration and discovery. Learning experiences are designed to enhance the child's positive self-image.

PROGRAMS

INFANT/TODDLER PROGRAM:

Children entering the Center and this program must be at least six weeks old. As children grow and progress, they will develop skills such as eating with utensils, drinking from a cup, and sitting with a group of children. Upon achieving these skills they will transition to the "toddler room" at approximately 18 to 20 months old. The adult/child ratio for the young infants is 1:4 and for the older toddlers it is 1:6. The maximum attendance for the infant classroom is 8 and the maximum attendance for the toddler classroom is 12.

PRESCHOOL/PREKINDER PROGRAM:

Children entering this program are toilet trained, are able to communicate clearly, can demonstrate recognition of some primary colors, and can sit attentively for at least 5 minutes. As the children progress through the program, they are preparing to begin kindergarten. Our goal is for them to be able to join into play, verbalize their needs and feelings, resolve conflicts, count to 10, recite the alphabet, recognize simple shapes, manipulate scissors, and communicate with appropriate vocabulary. The adult/child ratio for the preschoolers is 1:8 and 1:10 for the PreKinder class. The maximum enrolled for each classroom is 15. The preschool classroom is ages 3-4 years old, and the PreK classrooms is 4 years old to Kindergarten.

Organizational Chart

PRESIDENT

Dr. Cynthia Pemberton

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

VICE PRESIDENT

Julie Crea

DIRECTOR, KINDERCOLLEGE

Abby Woolery

LEAD TEACHERS

Wendy Blakeley (Preschool/PreK)

Stephanie Jungert (Infant/
Toddlers)

DAILY SCHEDULE

Toddler class:

7:30-8:30am Free play and diaper changes/potty
 8:30-9am Outside time
 9-9:30am Snack
 9:30-10am Circle time and guided learning activity
 10-10:30am Free play and diaper changes/potty
 10:30-11am Outside time
 11-11:30am Lunch
 11:30am-2pm Diapers/potty and nap
 2-2:30pm Wake up and diaper/potty
 2:30-3pm Outside time
 3-3:30pm Snack time
 3:30-4pm Circle time
 4pm Diapers/potty
 4-6pm Free play until picked up

Preschool/PreK:

7:30-8am Free play
 8am-8:30am Outside time
 8:30-9am Free play
 9-9:30am Snack
 9:30-10am Circle time and guided learning activity
 10am-11am Free play
 11am-11:30pm Outside time
 11:30am-12pm Lunch
 12pm-2pm nap or free play
 2-3pm Outside time
 3-3:30pm Snack time
 3:30-4pm Circle time
 4-6pm Free play until picked up

CURRICULUM AND STAFF

Our program features two Lead Teachers who have extensive training and education within Early Childhood. They are passionate and dedicated care givers who have years of experience working with children.

The programs provided are guided by Lead Teachers who plan and carry out all daily activities. They supervise the classrooms and are the primary contacts for day to day parent communication. Most assistant teachers are students at LCSC. Children are to be within sight and sound of teachers at all times. If a teacher is unable to arrive at work, another employee or the director will step into the classroom to cover their shift in order to ensure ratio and quality is met.

LC KinderCollege utilizes HighScope curriculum which is based on individuality and group needs. We provide opportunities for children to explore and practice skills. We believe that children learn through play. What looks like “child’s play” to adults is actually learning in progress. Each area has a daily schedule posted in the classroom, listing the schedule of daily activities, snacks, and naptimes. The teachers lesson planning takes into consideration individual needs of children, developmental appropriateness, assessments, age of children, special needs, cultural factors, and progress reports in regards to the social, emotional, cognitive, language and physical development of each child.

TRANSITIONS

When your child is ready to transition to another classroom, the lead teacher will notify you and introduce you to the new room and the lead teacher. We will work with your child for a few weeks before the change is actually made. The teachers will work together to share necessary information such as the needs and goals of the family/child to allow a successful transition. Your child’s teacher will spend time with them in their new class to help them adjust to the new environment. This will continue for several weeks to ensure a smooth transition. We usually wait to transition children until the new semester starts.

When your child is ready to transition to another environment such as another child care provider or Kindergarten we can provide a summary of your child’s development, needs, learning styles, progress, and recommendations. We can also communicate with the other program upon your request, and with a signed release of information form.

NAPPING

Infants take naps as needed. All toddlers lay down for nap in their classroom from 11:30am-2pm. The families with preschoolers are able to choose if and when their children participate in nap time. The nappers sleep in the preschool class and non-nappers will play in the PreK classroom until nap time is over.

ELIGIBILITY AND HOURS OF OPERATION

Our child care facility exists first to provide quality child care to children of LCSC students, then to children of LCSC faculty/staff and, if space is available, to children of the general public. The KinderCollege is licensed by the City of Lewiston to provide care for children six weeks of age through Kindergarten. Our hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The KinderCollege does offer additional hours/days of care to student parents during finals week to support a strong completion of the semester.

Closures due to holidays follow the College's holiday calendar and are posted prior to each closure. Periods of unusually low enrollment (for example between Christmas and New Year's) may necessitate additional closures. Such closures will be announced with as much notice as possible.

The center will be closed:

- ◆ President's Day
- ◆ Memorial Day
- ◆ Independence Day
- ◆ Labor Day
- ◆ Thanksgiving Day
- ◆ Day after Thanksgiving
- ◆ Christmas
- ◆ New Years

Parents/guardians, who arrive after the scheduled closing, will be charged additional fees of \$1 per minute after 6pm. Parents/guardians are asked to notify KinderCollege personnel by 8:00 a.m. if their child will not be in attendance that day.

ENROLLMENT/PARENT ORIENTATION

Our child care program welcomes children of any race, color, gender, religion, disability, national, and ethnic origin to participate in all program activities. Any child may enroll in the program providing the following conditions are met:

- the membership fee is paid
- the registration packet, contract, and CACFP form is complete
- the child is at least six weeks old
- there are vacancies in the program
- arrangements for advance payment are confirmed
- there is no delinquent balance for previous child care services
- proof of immunizations, or exemption form, and emergency authorization are received
- The parents have met with the director and teacher to discuss program practices, policies such as behavior management, mandatory reporting, ect

Parents/guardians are asked to provide the following supplies:

- Information sheet on child's habits, schedule, and characteristics.
- \$35 registration fee

- please ensure that children wear clothing that is comfortable, appropriate for the temperatures during the entire day (bring a jacket/coat if needed), and allows children to participate freely in creative activities.
- At least one extra change of clothes (the Center does not have enough clothes to provide for changes due to accidents or “extra messy” projects). Please remember to bring weather appropriate clothing as the seasons change.
- blanket (for children who nap)
- diapers (we do not accept cloth diapers)
- lunch foods, formula, and prepared infant foods (milk is provided for breakfast and lunch).
- backpack or bag to keep individual items in.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the KinderCollege with their child (ren) prior to the child’s first day of participation. This visit should be relaxed and give the child ample time to familiarize him/herself with his/her lead teacher and the new surroundings.

FEES

1. Full-time care is based on an average month of 20 days. If you sign up for full-time you are charged accordingly.
2. Full payment is required regardless of absences for illness or early departures.
3. Parents/guardians are asked to give at least a 14 day notice when a child will no longer be attending the KinderCollege.
4. A contract is signed upon enrollment and a weekly schedule is completed.
5. Payments are due by the first of each month. A \$25.00 late fee is assessed and added to unpaid balances by the 5th. A bimonthly payment plan of the 1st and the 15th may be set up with the office. Payments are due on the 1st and 15th and the late fee will be charged if payment has not been received by these dates. If the fee is not paid by the end of the month, the child will be considered disenrolled.
6. Registration fee of \$35 is charged at enrollment and annually every February after that.

ABSENCES

Full payment is required regardless of absences for illness or early departures. No allowances or reductions on tuition will be given due to vacation or snow days unless special arrangements are made.

LATE CHARGES/ COLLECTIONS

Fees are due by the 1st of each month. If the fee is not paid by the 5th a late fee of \$25.00 will be charged. If the fee is not paid by the end of the month your child will be disenrolled from the KinderCollege. If no payment is received after 30 days, a warning letter will be sent. After 45 days, your account will be turned over to a collections agency, in which case all collection costs will be added to your bill. If the parent/guardian is an LCSC student, a hold will be placed on your account. This will result in inability to register for classes, request transcripts, graduate and may revoke your eligibility for Federal Student Loans.

The charge for late pickup is \$1.00 for each minute after closing. It is strictly enforced. If you find yourself unable to be at the center by closing, please call so that we may reassure your child that you are safe, but be prepared to pay the late pick up fee at the time.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Immunization records are required of all enrollees. Records of immunization updates must be submitted to the program manager within 12 days of enrollment. Please keep track of when your child is due for additional vaccines and provide updated records after each appointment. The KinderCollege will verify each enrolled child immunization records in October and April each year through our IRIS database.

CHILD'S ORIENTATION INTO CHILD CARE

Starting group child care or preschool is an exciting experience for a young child, but it can also be a difficult one. However eager a child may seem for the new situation, there will be a moment when she realizes that her parents will no longer be there. The apprehension that accompanies this realization is normal anxiety. The following suggestions may help ease this separation anxiety:

1. Have the child visit the KinderCollege before starting care. Introduce the child to her lead teacher and some of her new classmates.
2. Say good-bye to your child and tell him/her you are leaving and the time when you will return. Try to leave quickly and unhesitatingly. If a child cries at the moment of separation, the crying seldom continues for more than a few

minutes after the parent/guardian is out of sight. If you've forgotten to tell the caregiver something, call later instead of going back into the child's area of care.

3. It is normal for the child to go through a period of adjustment during changes in her life.
4. Please let us know if your child has any special needs or cultural factors we should be aware in order to provide the best care.

Remember that the adjustment period for every child differs. If after several weeks a child seems to be having a particularly difficult time adjusting to our child care setting, the child's lead teacher and the director will discuss the situation with the parent/guardian.

GUIDANCE POLICY

The staff at our KinderCollege believe that a child's social and emotional well-being is a critical part of a child's development. Through adult guidance and association with playmates, the child is being prepared for self-control at a pace they can internalize. We attempt to help a child become more aware of her peer group, while learning to respect the rights of others and to conform to minor regulations.

KinderCollege uses a redirection method. The teacher will calmly give a child instruction or redirection, and explain the reasoning for this direction to help the child learn. If a child is escalated or overstimulated, the child may be separated from the group and encouraged to regain composure. The caregiver supports the child through their emotional reaction and helps the child understand the situation in order to re-enter the group in a positive way. Any type of corporal punishment or verbal abuse is strictly prohibited.

During the early childhood years, children are learning to be in charge of their own behavior. We believe in establishing consistent, easy-to-understand limits and in having teachers who respond to inappropriate behavior with insight, sensitivity, and skill. When clear, consistent and age appropriate limits are present; children increasingly become responsible for themselves. When out-of-bounds behaviors do occur, we believe it is important for children to understand why the behavior is inappropriate and how to modify it. We work to prevent behavior problems by arranging each classroom so that children work in small groups and have a choice of activities. The range of activities will give your child the freedom and ability to experience success and become self-directed. Teachers are also trained to skillfully direct behavior along appropriate channels. Children are encouraged to verbalize their feelings to learn to positively work through strong emotions. Teachers act as role models and encourage children's appropriate behaviors.

We believe that it is our responsibility to provide children with positive guidance and in our experience, most children will respond well to our approach. In the event that a child does not respond, we will notify the parents and work closely with them to develop a plan to help the child gain self-control and a positive attitude toward their peers and teachers. Should the child's continued negative behavior put themselves, their peers or their teachers at risk for physical harm or, if the child damages Center property, we reserve the right to ask the parent to withdraw the child from the Center. While we understand the developmental tendencies of children to experiment with inappropriate language to shock others, withdrawal may also be requested for those children who are verbally abusive, including the repeated use of inappropriate language with other families consider offensive.

Occasionally a child will exhibit behaviors for which our philosophy of discipline is not effective. Examples include consistently aggressive behavior; hitting, kicking, fighting, etc. While we will try to work with parents to eliminate this type of behavior, in severe cases, the family may be asked to seek other care.

Parents/guardians with specific concerns or questions should discuss them with the child's teacher. Literature may be available with the teacher to help address and deal with many developmental issues a child is experiencing. Any issue not satisfactorily addressed by the child's teacher should be taken to the program manager.

Under no circumstances is corporal punishment permitted. Discipline will not be associated with food, rest or toileting.

BITING

Occurrences of biting at the center can happen. Biting occurs for a variety of reasons and is a developmental phase that many children go through. Biting can be as upsetting for the parents as it is for the child. The parent of the "bitee" can feel concerned and angry while the parent of the "biter" can feel embarrassed or frustrated.

In cases of biting, we will follow our Guidance Policy outline. Usually, when a child is in a biting phase we try to deal with the situation by shadowing the "biter" and tracking what if anything is triggering the incident. We may also remove the child from the immediate situation and redirected their attentions to another activity or area of play, providing less stimulation. It has always been our policy to document the incident for both children involved. This will continue to be part of the steps we take to deal with biting, however, we will now be contacting parents if a child bites three times in one day and that child will be sent home for the remainder of the day.

We want to be supportive of parents when their children are going through these stages but feel we need to set up a more structured way of dealing with the situation. Your child's lead teacher has information dealing with biting and other developmental stages and milestones. If you ever have any questions or concerns dealing with your child's development please talk to your child's teacher. We find that it is best if we can work with parents and try to keep as much consistency for the children as possible. If you have any questions about the policy or any others dealing with child development please let us know.

DIAPERS/POTTY TRAINING

Diapers are changed at minimum every two hours. If a teacher notices a child has had a bowel movement, their diaper will be changed immediately. Only employees who have cleared background checks are allowed in the children's bathroom areas. A toddler must be potty training before transitioning to the preschool classroom. Parents and the lead teacher discuss when it's time to start the potty-training process and how to best facilitate this at home and at school.

SAFETY, HEALTH, AND ILLNESS ISSUES

Throughout the day staff will monitor each child for differences in behavior or appearance, fevers, skin rashes or itchy skin, complaints of pain or not feeling well, reported illness or injury since last day of attendance, and any other signs of illness as stated below. If your child arrives with a significant bruise or injury please explain how it occurred to the teacher on shift.

If a child becomes ill during the day, parents/guardians will be notified to pick up their child as soon as possible and the child will be isolated from the other children until parents arrive.

Children experiencing temperatures of 100 degrees or above or who are exhibiting other signs of obvious illness will be excluded from care for 24 hours after the symptom concludes. A parent/guardian or designated person is expected to pick up an ill child as soon as possible, after being notified. If a child is well enough to be in attendance, he/she is expected to participate in all program activities, including outdoor play. Parent/guardians are asked to alert either office personnel or the child's teacher when a child has been exposed to a contagious disease. A person with a disease is often contagious before he/she develops symptoms.

Children should not be in attendance if they have any of the following symptoms:

- ◆ Unusual spots or rashes combined with fever
- ◆ Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- ◆ Illness that prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities
- ◆ Infected skin patches
- ◆ Unusual diarrhea, tea-colored urine

- ◆ Breathing trouble (especially important in an infant under six months old)
- ◆ Fever of 100 degrees or above combined with other symptoms
- ◆ Frequent scratching of scalp or skin
- ◆ Gray or white bowel movement
- ◆ Headache
- ◆ Vomiting
- ◆ Active tuberculosis

We will assess the above conditions to decide when it is appropriate to notify parents they need to pick up their child. Children may return to the KinderCollege 24 hours after the disappearance of all symptoms and/or 24 hours after receiving medication prescribed by a physician. This could be longer depending on the illness.

HAND WASHING

Children and staff wash their hands upon arrival, before and after meals, after coming inside from outside, after using the bathroom or a diaper change, and after wiping a snotty nose.

COVID-19

The KinderCollege acknowledges that this is an overwhelming and continuously changing environment. The health and safety of your children and our staff members are of utmost importance to us. We are taking several steps around the center to help mitigate exposure risks and keep everyone safe. Staff members are required to stay home if they exhibit symptoms such as runny nose, short of breath, fever, and cough. We frequently disinfecting surfaces and toys. If a staff, child or child's family member have been tested for COVID, they must not attend the KinderCollege until they have received the results. If a family member in the same household tests positive, the child cannot return until 5 days after the end of that individuals contagion period.

INCLUSION

We welcome children of all abilities. We will work with parents to provide a safe and nurturing learning environment for their child. We will also work together to support any services needed to enrich your child's development.

INCIDENT/ACCIDENT REPORTS

Our teachers work to decrease serious accidents by supervising children, implementing safety rules, and intervening quickly when they witness a safety risk. All injuries and signs of illness will be documented by staff on an Incident Report and parents/guardians will be informed through ProCare. If a parent/guardian/emergency contact cannot be reached in a medical, dental, or

mental health emergency, the designated person in charge will secure and authorize medical care and/or treatment for the child. Any costs incurred for medical treatment are the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Our program takes measures to keep track of all children in care such as verifying all children who are signed in are accounted for when going inside and outside the building. All children are kept within eyesight and ear shot from a teacher at all time. If a child were to go missing in our care we would search our entire building/grounds, in addition to calling the parents and 911 immediately.

In the case of a child or staff member death, whether that is in the program or offsite due to illness or accident, both parents and staff will be notified, and the program may close for a short time to investigate and/or mourn the individual.

ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW

Every February and September the KinderCollege holds a parent education night to provide updates and seek feedback. New parents will be asked to complete a 45 day of enrollment survey to check in on progress. A written program survey will be given on an annual basis to all parents in order to receive anonymous feedback. Both positive feedback and constructive criticism allows the KinderCollege to better meet the needs of all families. Improvement plans can be established based on parent responses.

PARENT ADVISORY BOARD

The KinderCollege has a Parent Board who has 3 parents at a time. The purpose of this board is to receive comprehensive ideas and feedback on the KinderCollege operations. Parent Board members will be selected annually every September. If you are interested in being a member please let the Director know. The board is to review and discuss curriculum planning. These meetings are held via zoom once a semester.

MEDICATION POLICY

Medication (prescription or over the counter) will only be given with a signed consent form from the child's parent/guardian. This consent form must indicate the time frame of the permission. Medication is only to be administered by a lead teacher. It must be in its original container labeled with: the child's full name, medication name, dosage, method of administration, frequency and its original label intact. If it's a prescription medication, the parent must provide a copy of the prescription issued by the healthcare provider that indicates the specific dosage and administration instructions. The parent should also provide information on possible side effects of the medication. All medications must be given to staff and will be stored in a location inaccessible to children. A written record will be kept to document when medications were given and by whom.

HEAD LICE POLICY

KinderCollege maintains a “nit free” policy. Staff will assess during initial health screening upon arrival if child has any skin rash or lice and nits. Any child contracting head lice will be excluded until the child is “nit free.” Lice or nits treatment may be delayed until the end of the day as long as treatment is started before returning, no exclusion is necessary.

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

KinderCollege staff are mandated by Idaho law to immediately report to police and/or Child Protective Services, any and all suspected child abuse (physical, emotional, sexual, exploitation, and neglect). Neglect is the failure, refusal, or inability, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, shelter or medical care. Staff and volunteers who report in good faith are immune from civil or criminal liability. Staff or volunteers who intentionally fail to report suspicion are subject to fines or imprisonment under the law.

Steps to prevent child physical/sexual abuse and neglect in our program include but are not limited to:

1. Makes sure interactions between children and staff can be observed and interrupted.
2. Design our classrooms to avoid hidden and secluded areas.
3. Requires a background check for all staff.
4. Staff attend annual training on preventing/reporting child abuse.

If there are concerns about any child abuse (physical, sexual, emotional, or exploitative) or neglect occurring at school, we will follow our mandatory reporting protocols and place the staff in question on leave while the issue is being investigated.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

-Evacuation procedures and relocation sites are posted in each classroom. In the event of a campus-wide evacuation, KinderCollege will immediately begin to relocate to the Congregational-Presbyterian Church. If your child has a prescribed medication that may be needed upon evacuation, teachers will do our best to retrieve it as we evacuate.

- Once evacuated and in a safe location we will notify parents of the crisis and inform them of the location to come reunify with their child. If parents are unable to be reached, the authorized emergency contact will be called.
- Our lockdown procedure involves hiding in classrooms with light off and away from windows.
- Fire drills are done once a month.
- If your child is critically injured in care our staff will assess the situation and depending on the severity, staff will assess if they need to call emergency services before you.
- Notifications will be sent via ProCare message and/or phone call to parents

MEALS

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

KinderCollege meal time vision is to provide a safe and healthy environment that encourages positive interactions among children and adults. It will also provide a learning environment that promotes good eating habits and social skills.

KinderCollege is part of the Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP) which is a federally funded program administered nationally by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The primary goal of the program is to provide nutritious meals for children enrolled in childcare centers, outside school hours centers, family day care homes and adults enrolled in day care centers. As part of this program the KinderCollege provides breakfast at 9:00 am and an afternoon snack at 3:00 pm. Parents provide lunches for their children. A microwave oven and refrigerator are available for proper food preparation and storage. A fee will be charged if a lunch is not provided by parents/guardians.

As with all federal programs, there are minimum guidelines that must be met by sponsors. All participating centers and homes must serve meals which meet minimum U.S. Department of Agriculture nutritional standards. The CACFP, in turn, provides financial assistance in terms of reimbursement based upon meals served and family-sized and economic levels of participants.

The KinderCollege encourages parents to pack lunches including fruit or vegetables and grains to support healthy development. We also ask that parents only bring sugary treats for birthdays, holidays, or other special occasions.

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: [How to File a Complaint](#), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Parents can provide a breakfast if your child will be at the KinderCollege before 7:30am. The meal you provide will not be offered after 7:30 per CACFP guidelines so that there is an hour and a half between this and the 9:00 breakfast that the center provides.

Meal times are as follows:

Breakfast (CACFP):	9:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Lunches	
Infants/toddlers:	11:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Preschool/Pre-K:	11:30 - 12:00 p.m.
Afternoon snack:	3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURES

Parents/guardians are requested to accompany their child into the KinderCollege, record the child's arrival on ProCare, and help the child put away

his/her belongings. The same procedure is used for departing children. Only parents of enrolled children and staff are given the access code for entrance to the building. For security reasons, parents are expected to keep the code confidential. Anyone arriving or departing from the KinderCollege is asked to secure the entry gate. We ask that infant parents remove their child from their car seat and hand their child to a teacher upon arrival.

Children will not be released to anyone who is not authorized by the parent/guardian on the authorized pick up list in the child's ProCare profile. Please bring photo identification with you when you pick up your child, and ask other people who pick up your child to bring identification. Indicate who is allowed to pick up your child (ren) by listing them on your authorization list. You can add or remove people on this list on your ProCare app at any time. Teachers can use pick-ups and drop offs to communicate with parents in regards to their child's day or any unusual occurrences.

If the teachers are concerned about a parent/guardian/family member entering the premises unauthorized, contentious, or intoxicated they will be asked to leave and LCSC security will be called.

VISITORS

Visitors or anyone picking up a child on an occasional basis may ring the doorbell for entry. They will be asked to show photo identification and it will be checked against a list of authorized adults that parents provide on the Registration paperwork.

If staff see unknown or suspicious individuals lurking around or trying to enter the premises LCSC security will be called to respond and teachers will ensure the individual in question does not have contact with any of the children.

COMMUNICATION

Communication between teachers and parents is essential. Parents and staff use the ProCare app to communicate updates, activities, and questions. This may include messages such as special pick up times, doctor's appointments, names of others who will be picking up your child, or anything you wish to let the staff know about your child for that particular day.

We provide live updates throughout the day for each child in every classroom through ProCare. The daily activities provide parents with a glimpse into their child's day with information including foods eaten, overall temperament and general information. The infant classroom utilizes paper documents posted on a board in the classroom to document naps, bottle/meals, and diaper changes

instead of on ProCare to allow for easy and efficient care tracking for the staff since each infant is on an individualized schedule based on their needs. Parents are always allowed to reach out and check in on how their child is doing throughout the day.

As always, the KinderCollege has an open-door policy regarding communication with parents and staff members. If you have any questions or concerns, we are available for communication via phone, ProCare messaging, email or in person conferences. We also have an LC KinderCollege Facebook page that shares exciting activities and information!

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The Kindercollege as an open door policy with families. Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Any conflicts that arise will be respectfully resolved with the Directors best efforts. Parent education meetings will be held every February and September. These attendees would obtain important information on upcoming events and provide feedback on quality improvement. We do hold fun parent involvement activities throughout the year as well! Advance notice will be given to parents to encourage participation. Family members are always welcome to share their culture and traditions, talents, and skills to be involved in the program.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidentiality is required in child care programs to protect the rights of children and families. Staff may not talk about or share written information, pictures, or any other identifying information about a child or family without the written permission of the family. When information is shared it is based on a need-to-know and is done with the written permission of the family to support decision-making and planning. A photo release is included in the registration form to allow for children's pictures to be shared on the Facebook page, newspaper, and advertising. Please let us know if you do not consent to this and we will exclude your children from being in such pictures.

The child's files are kept in a cabinet or on ProCare that remains secure by the person in charge in the office. These files include names, addresses, and phone numbers of parents or guardians, emergency contact information, emergency medical treatment authorization form, the child's physician's name and phone number, allergies, authorization to release to someone(s) other than parent(s), developmental history, health status including results of health exams and screenings indicating typical or atypical results and any necessary follow up documented, instructions for any special needs or chronic illness, progress reports, conference reports, registration and admission forms, immunization records, and correspondence concerning the child or family, reports or minutes from meetings concerning the child from other agencies, and observations by

staff on any confidential matter involving the child, such as developmental concerns or child protection matters.

TOYS AND PERSONAL ARTICLES FROM HOME

While we teach respect for the property of others, accidents can and do happen. With the exception of special items for show and tell, children are encouraged to leave toys and other personal belongings at home. Books, workbooks, and other educational articles are welcome to share during specific group times. All personal articles should be labeled and brought in a backpack. They will remain in the child's cubby throughout the day. We do not allow toy guns, swords, or items with a violent or negative connotation at the KinderCollege.

All children are required to have a change of clothing that is seasonally appropriate accessible at school.

Community Outreach

The KinderCollege communicated its announcements, needs, and services posted on the KinderCollege Facebook page and LCSC website. Brochures, flyers, and business cards from other resources in our valley are posted in the parent information center. The classrooms frequently go on walks around campus. Once a summer the center walks to Pioneer park to play on the playground there. Parents are invited on this walk and permission slips will be issued for your signature.

CONFERENCES

At the end of each semester parent's can schedule conferences with their child's lead teacher. This is the opportunity to discuss your child's growth over the semester. We will share information we have observed over the semester and ask parent/guardians to share their needs and ask questions about their child. You may schedule an additional individual conference at any time. If we have any suggestions for screenings for evaluations or vision, language, hearing, or special needs, that we haven't previously identified, this is when they will be discussed.

ASSESSMENTS

Within the first 45 days of enrollment your child's teacher will complete a development screening. In addition to this, the KinderCollege utilizes COR advantage. COR Advantage is a birth-to-kindergarten child assessment tool that assists teachers in supporting children at every developmental level — including children who are English Language Learners and those with special needs. It also provides administrators with more comprehensive reporting options to guide

program planning and staff development. We will share our findings at parent-teacher conferences each semester.

Developmental Milestones

All children develop at different paces. However, paying attention to milestones as your child gets older can give you a general idea of what changes to expect and when. Children reach developmental milestones as they play, learn, speak, act, and move. Developmental screenings play an important role in creating appropriate supports for children who are at different development levels. Parents can easily track milestones using www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/freematerials.html#toolsfortrackingmilestones-2017 Teachers and parents can coordinate on encouraging the child to continue to learn and grow at a healthy pace by ensuring secure relationships, stimulating learning environments, sufficient nutrition, physical activity, and plenty of rest! Lead teachers will inform parents if they observe anything concerning in regards to a child's development and parents are encouraged to communicate any concerns they have with teachers. If your child is not reaching developmental milestones as expected, or having any mental/behavioral health issues we may recommend different resources that could help you determine the best course for your child.

Multicultural/ Bilingual Services

Multicultural programming for children enables children to develop an awareness of, respect for, and appreciation of individual cultural differences. It is beneficial to all children. Program information may be made available in languages other than English if needed.

Termination

Termination of services will be considered if a parent is continuously disrespectful to teachers, if a child's behaviors are so severe multiple intervention plans have not been successful in solving issues, or if there is an outstanding balance more than \$2000. The KinderCollege reserves the right to discontinue providing childcare services at any time.

INFORMATION

Child Care Provider's Guide to Safe Sleep Helping you to reduce the risk of SIDS

DID YOU KNOW?

- About one in five sudden infant syndrome (SIDS) deaths occur while an infant is being cared for by someone other than a parent. Many of these deaths occur when infants who are used to sleeping on

their backs at home are then placed to sleep on their tummies by another caregiver. We call this “unaccustomed tummy sleeping.”

- Unaccustomed tummy sleeping increases the risk of SIDS. Babies who are used to sleeping on their backs and placed to sleep on their tummies are 18 times more likely to die from SIDS.

WHO IS AT RISK FOR SIDS?

- SIDS is the leading cause of death for infants between 1 month and 12 months of age.
- SIDS is most common among infants that are 1-4 months old. However, babies can die from SIDS until they are 1 year old. Because we don't know what causes SIDS, safe sleep practices should be used to reduce the risk of SIDS in every infant under the age of 1 year.

SIDS IS NOT CAUSED BY:

- Immunizations
- Vomiting or choking

WHAT CAN CHILD CARE PROVIDERS DO?

Follow these guidelines to help protect the infants in your care:

FOLLOW A SAFE SLEEP POLICY

OUR SAFE SLEEP POLICY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Back to sleep for every sleep. To reduce the risks of SIDS, infants should be placed for sleep in a supine position (completely on the back) for every sleep by every caregiver until 1 year of life. Side sleeping is not safe and not advised.
- Consider offering a pacifier at nap time and bedtime. The pacifier should not have cords or attaching mechanisms that might be a strangulation risk.
- Place babies on a firm sleep surface, covered by a fitted sheet that meets current safety standards.
- Keep soft objects, loose bedding, bumper pads, or any objects that could increase the risk of suffocation or strangulation from the baby's sleep area.
- Loose bedding, such as sheets and blankets, should not be used.
- Sleep only 1 baby per crib.
- Keep the room at a temperature that is comfortable for a lightly clothed adult.
- Do not use wedges or infant positioners, since there's no evidence that they reduce the risk of SIDS, and they may increase the risk of suffocation.
- Have supervised, daily “tummy time” for babies who are awake. This will help babies strengthen their muscles and develop normally.
- Teach all staff, substitutes, and volunteers are trained in safe sleep policies and practices and be sure to review these practices often. When a new baby is coming into the program, be sure to talk to the parents about your safe sleep policy and how their baby sleeps. If the baby sleeps in a way other than on her back, the child's parents or guardians need a note from the child's physician that explains how she should sleep, the medical reason for this position and a time

frame for this position. This note should be kept on file and all staff, including substitutes and volunteers, should be informed of this special situation. It is also a good idea to put a sign on the baby's crib.

Preparing, Feeding, and Storing Human Milk

Expressed human milk should be transported and stored in clean and sanitary bottles with nipples that fit tightly or in equivalent clean and sanitary sealed containers to prevent spilling during transport to home or to the facility. Only cleaned and sanitized bottles, or their equivalent, and nipples should be used in feeding. The bottle or container should be properly labeled with the child's full name and the date and time the milk was expressed. The filled, labeled bottles or containers of human milk should immediately be stored in the refrigerator on arrival.

Frozen human milk may be transported and stored in single-use plastic bags and placed in a freezer with a separate door or a stand-alone freezer, and not in a compartment within a refrigerator. To prevent intermittent rewarming due to opening the freezer door regularly, frozen human milk should be stored in the back of the freezer and caregivers/teachers should carefully monitor, with daily log sheets, temperature of freezers used to store human milk using an appropriate working thermometer.

The KinderCollege welcomes breastfeeding mothers. We do have an area in the nap room that mothers are allowed to utilize for breastfeeding though out the day if desired.

Physical Activity

The KinderCollege promotes physical activity in children through fine motor skill activities, multiple lengthy periods outside each day to allow for gross motor play, and practice activities involving balls, baskets, bikes, and frisbees. This is why we ask parents send their kids to school with seasonally appropriate clothing. Children 2-5 years old should have a total of 3 hours of physical activity a day. Physical activity benefits brain health, helps manage weight, reduces risk of disease, strengthens bones/muscles, and improves ability to participate in daily activities. Outside time will be limited or eliminated if temperatures are below -15 or above 90 degrees, stormy, and if the air quality is unsafe due to smoke.

Prohibited Substances

The use of any tobacco products, alcohol, or any illegal substances is prohibited on KinderCollege property including, in the building, and around the outside playground area.

Pet Policy

In general pets are discouraged from coming in the KinderCollege. If any pets are brought into the KinderCollege during drop off or pickup time it is the responsibility of the pets owner to ensure that the pet is not disruptive, harmful, and clean up any messes the pet may cause.

Use and Storage of Toxic Materials

The number of toxic materials in the KinderCollege are limited due to the nature of having children around. Any toxic materials are placed securely out of reach of the children, and or locked up. All art supplies and any other materials utilized by children are non-toxic or are closely supervised.

Policy Review

All policies and procedures in this parent handbook will be reviewed and evaluated on an annual basis.

Please let us know if you need any clarification on any program operations or policies!