Child Care in the Campus Community

Introduction

For parents working at the University, the Penn Women's Center has compiled an informal directory by asking all of the known child care centers in the University neighborhood to fill out a questionnaire. The following pages summarize the responses of twelve centers, and give a checklist of things to look for as you visit and compare. The map on page IV will help you locate the centers.

The Women's Center is not in a position to recommend or guarantee any center, and we urge all parents to investigate thoroughly and select carefully.

The University proper sponsors only one facility—the Penn Children's Center (right) affiliated with the School of Social Work. In addition, the Infant Friendship Center (page II) has an affiliation for teaching purposes with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Though not all centers gave comparable answers on their questionnaires, each did describe its general thrust and its licensing, which indicates substantial compliance with regulations pertaining to health and safety, qualifications of staff, equipment and program content. The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (D.P.W.) Bureau of Child Development licenses all facilities which provide child care. In this state a day care center is defined as a facility in which care is provided for seven or more children at any one time, in child care areas not being used as a family residence. The operator must receive authorization from the D.P.W., which inspects, evaluates and licenses these facilities.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, State Board of Private Academic Schools licenses private schools. Some facilities listed here have dual licensure, including Drexel Early Childhood Center, Little Friends Learning Center and University City Montessori School. In this directory, two parent cooperative nursery schools are not licensed by either agency—St. Mary's Coop Nursery School and Tabernacle Nursery School, where parents provide some of the staffing.

Compiling this type of directory is a rolling process, so any list may be out of date by the time it becomes a reality. The Women's Center will keep updating the file available for examination at our Houston Hall office. Whether you use one of these centers or another form of child care (such as a babysitter in your own home), we would like your response to the brief questionnaire at the end.

Penn Children's Center
3905 Spruce Street (rear), 898-5268 or 898-5282
Mailing address: 3701 Locust Walk/C3
Director: Pamela F. Johnson.
Multi-ethnic, family-oriented pre-school.
Toddlers: 2 yr-3 1/2 yrs, max. group size 19, staff/child ratio 1:3.
Preschoolers: 3 1/2-4 1/2 yrs, max. groups size 16, staff/child ratio 1:7.
Kindergarten: 4 1/2-5 yrs, max. group size 13, staff/child ratio 1:10.
Full capacity: 48. Present enrollment: 42.
Hot meals: not provided, snacks provided.
Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:45 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed Labor Day, Thanksgiving and day after Christmas eve to day after New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July).
Center's objective and philosophy: multi-cultural, family-centered program, eclectic focus, serving West Phila. and the broader Phila. community.
The Infant Friendship Center
227 N. 34th Street, 895-2424
Director: Mrs. Lois Baker, assoc. dir. Mrs. Ronnie Levy.

Open classroom: learning centers, educational experiences, technology and computers, individual and group experiences.

*Preschoolers*: 3-4 year olds, max. group size 30, staff/child ratio 1:8.
*Kindergarten*: 5 year olds, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5.

Full Capacity: presently at capacity (45).

Hot meals: breakfast and lunch, afternoon snack also provided.

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed 14 holidays).


Hot meals: breakfast and lunch, afternoon snack also provided.

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m. (soon 24 hrs.), Monday-Friday.

Application fee: none. Full-time fees: infants $108/week, toddlers $118/week, preschoolers $78/week, kindergarten $78/week.

Full capacity: 120. Present enrollment: 60.

Hot meals: breakfast and lunch, snacks provided.

Hours: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. (soon 24 hrs.), Monday-Friday.


Part-time fees: a wide variety of schedules is available, ie., 2 full days (infant and toddler only) and 5 part days; call the center to inquire about specific fees. Sibling discount: 7 percent for two or more children in the same family enrolled simultaneously. Scholarships: no, however, there is a community scholarship and ISI employees receive a subsidy. Parking available. MasterCard or Visa accepted.


Center's objective and philosophy: to provide educational day care to infants/toddlers and prepare preschoolers for private primary education.

Nana Bear's Love-N-Care Day Care Plus
30 North 52nd Street, 747-8866
Directors: Ralinda Golback, Anna Grant.

Day care: We follow the regulations for Penna. Day Care Centers. The numbers for each age group, size, etc., is flexible and depends upon the guidelines.

Full capacity: presently at capacity (19).

Hours: 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas eve until day after New Year's Day).

Application fee: $25. Full-time fees: toddlers $35/week, preschoolers $45/week, kindergarten $55/week.

Part-time fees: toddlers $20/week, preschoolers $20/week, kindergarten $25/week. Sibling discount: no, scholarships not available. Parking not available.


Center's objective and philosophy: to provide educational day care to infants/toddlers and prepare preschoolers for private primary education.
The Parent Infant Center
4205 Spruce Street, 389-4310
Director: Marri Sweet.
Infants/Toddlers: 3 months-2 1/2 years, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:3.
Preschoolers: 2 1/2-5 years, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:5.
Full capacity: 50. Present enrollment: 46.
Hot meals: not provided, snacks provided.
Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and day after).
Application fee: $125; deposit refunded at end of stay. Full-time fees: infants/toddlers up to 2 years $96/wk., preschoolers $65/wk. Part-time fees: infants/toddlers (3 days) $56/wk., preschoolers (3 days) $45/wk. Sibling discount: if two in younger group one pays older group fee. Scholarships: yes, 3 funded spaces under Urban League 4Ps program.
Center's objective and philosophy: help each preschooler develop to his/her fullest potential through individualized teaching techniques geared to each child.

Tabernacle Nursery School
3700 Chestnut Street, 386-4100
Director: Linda Hecht.
Parent cooperative nursery school with after-school program.
Toddlers: 18 months-2 years 7 months, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.
Preschoolers: 2 years 7 months-5 months, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5-1:7.
Full capacity: 42. Present enrollment: 35.
Hot meals: not provided, snacks provided.
Hours: 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed July and August, Christmas 2 weeks, Easter week, up to five one-day holidays).
Application fee: none. Full-time fees: toddlers $365/month, preschoolers $295/month. Part-time fees: toddlers $150/month, preschoolers $100/month 5 mornings/week; toddlers $90/month 3 mornings/week. Sibling discount: yes, $70 (5 days/week), $42.50 (3 days/week). Scholarships available, half scholarship for the morning program; parking not available.
Licensed: none. Affiliation: a non-sectarian affiliate of the Tabernacle Church; non-profit.
Center's objective and philosophy: warm, loving atmosphere where children explore and learn in a rich educational environment.

ST. PAN ALE COMMUNITY DAY CARE
3832 Haverford Avenue, 386-9319
Director: Mrs. Emma Williams.
Day care with a preschool curriculum, akin to Get-Set programs.
Toddlers: 2 1/2-3 years, max. group size 3, staff/child ratio 1:3.
Preschoolers: 3-5 years, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:5.
Kindergarten: 6 years, max. group size included in preschool amt., staff/child ratio 1:5.
Hot meals: provided, snacks provided.
Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. (closed New Year's Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas eve and Day).
Application fee: $5. Full-time fees: toddlers $40/wk., preschoolers and kindergarten $35/wk. Part-time fees: Toddlers $5/day, preschoolers and kindergarten $7/day. Sibling discount: yes, 12 percent, scholarships available, contingent upon grant availability and amount; parking available.
Center's objective and philosophy: help each preschooler develop to his/her fullest potential through individualized teaching techniques geared to each child.

University City Montessori School
N.W. corner 31st and Spruce Streets, 474-1599
Director: Bradley Sheeks.
Montessori school, licensed by the State as a private academic school and as a child care center.
Infants: 5-18 months, max. group size 6, staff/child ratio 1:3.
Toddlers: 18-30 months, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5.
Preschoolers: 30 months-5 years, max. group size 40 (includes kindergarten), staff/child ratio 1:10.
Kindergarten: 5-6 years, staff/child ratio 1:10.
Hot meals: not provided, snacks provided.
Hours: 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed on National holidays).
Center's objective and philosophy: commitment to a happy, healthy family life; high quality day care program can contribute to the peace of mind of the parents as well as the growth and development of the child.
A Child Care Checklist

Day care facilities vary considerably in terms of both their provisions and objectives. Some practical considerations that can be observed and evaluated by parents appear below.

**Physical Space**
- nutritious meals/healthful snacks
- heat/light/ventilation levels
- adequate/accessible toilets
- storage space/individual cubbies
- isolation area for sick child
- age-appropriate materials
- toys/furniture/equipment
- attractive/comfortable decor
- adequate space/running & climbing
- open & covered outdoor space
- contiguous indoor/outdoor space

**Safety/Health**
- first aid supplies
- emergency phone numbers
- locked up poisons
- prohibited smoking
- fire exits/drift procedures
- fire extinguishers
- smoke detectors
- capped electrical outlets
- covered radiators/heaters
- secured upper story windows
- stable furniture units

**Psychological Space**
- dependable/consistent care
- adult always present
- adult/child ratios
- affectional/communication levels
- caretakers experienced or trained
- kindly tone/not punitive
- sensible toilet training
- referral service (hearing/vision screening)
- quiet play/active play
- playing alone/with others
- small groups
- socialization methods
- range of choice of activities
- happy children/purposeful activity
- equal access/boys & girls
- parent/staff conferences
- open parental visiting

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**Child Care Questionnaire**

How many children are there in your home/family in each of the following age groups?
- Under 18 months
- 18-36 months
- 3-5 years
- 5-6 years
- 6-12 years

How are you related to the children?
- Mother
- Father
- Grandparent
- Other

Are you now employed?
- Full-time
- Part-time
- No

Are you a student?
- Full-time
- Part-time
- No

While you are at work or at school who cares for your children? (Check one or more)
- Family member living with you
- Family member not living with you
- Child care center near home
- Child care center near work (school)
- Babysitter in his/her home
- Babysitter in your home
- Center listed in this supplement
- Other

What is your weekly expense for child care per child? Total

What factors do you consider most important in selecting child care arrangements?

Additional comments/concerns about child care:

Please complete this questionnaire and send to the Penn Women's Center, Houston Hall/CM, 3417 Spruce Street, Phila., PA 19104.