Child Care in the Campus Community

The Penn Women's Center has compiled this informal directory of licensed child care centers in the University neighborhood as a special service to the Penn community. We recognize the importance of accessible and affordable child care if parents are to join and maintain their presence at the University. We also understand that many who come to the University are unfamiliar with child care resources in the community. This brochure has been developed to assist Penn parents as they plan for their child care needs.

The Penn 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 Penn Women's Center acknowledges that for some parents even these centers may be too costly and therefore we recommend that parents also consult other child care resources as a means of identifying more affordable child care. Full and part-time employees of the University are eligible to obtain a printout of child care (including in home child care) in the area where they work or live through Child Care Systems, Inc. Contact the Benefit's Office of Human Resources for further information at 898-7281. (The fee for the service is $6).

The following pages summarize the responses of 14 centers to a questionnaire regarding the services each offers. Though not all centers supplied comparable information, each did describe its general focus, hours, fees (subject to change from the time the information was gathered), as well as the various programs offered for children of different ages.

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**Penn Children's Center**

3905 Spruce Street (rear)
3701 Locust Walk (mailing address)
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6214
898-5268 or 898-5282

**Director:** Ms. Pam F. Johnson

**Programs:** Ages served by center—18 months to 5 years.

- **Infants/Toddlers:** 18 months—3 years, maximum group size 10, staff/child ratio 1:3. (Play group Mondays and Wednesdays only.)
- **Toddlers:** 2-3 years, maximum group size 19, staff/child ratio 1:3.
- **Preschoolers:** 3-4 years, maximum group size 16, staff/child ratio 1:5; 4-5 years, maximum group size 13, staff/child ratio 1:10.

**Hours:** 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. (late fee after 5:45 pm) 50 weeks a year.

**Dates Center is Closed:** Some major holidays, week between Christmas and New Year's, last week in August until after Labor Day.

**Full Time Fees:** Three days: $70/week; Four days: $80/week; Five days: $90/week. **Discount:** $5 for second child. Application fee: $10 with application. **Security deposit:** 2 wk deposit to be used last 2 weeks enrolled in program, payable upon first day of admission.

**Snacks and Meals Provided by Center:** 2 snacks and beverage.

**Maximum Capacity of Center:** 48

**Center's Objective and Philosophy:** To provide educational preparation as well as racial and cultural awareness. To offer intervention and prevention services to children and their families. To offer weekly intergenerational activities and field trips. To sponsor parent educational workshops in which the families and/or parent(s) of children enrolled may participate. To extend enrollment beyond University affiliates. To offer temporary care arrangements.

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All of the centers are licensed through the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (D.P.W.), which indicates substantial compliance with regulations pertaining to health and safety, qualification of staff, equipment, and program content. In Pennsylvania 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 D.P.W., which inspects, evaluates, and licenses these facilities.

Compiling this type of directory is an ongoing process, so any listing may contain information that is out-of-date by the time of publication. The Penn Women's Center, however, will continue to update its resource file which is available for examination in 119 Houston Hall.

Whether one chooses to use one of these centers, or makes alternate arrangements for child care, the Penn Women's Center encourages parents to thoroughly explore the following options in attempting to fulfill both parents' and child's best interests. Also it should be noted that the Penn Children's Center is the only day care center affiliated with the University. The center is sponsored by the School of Social Work.

The Penn Women's Center would like to take this opportunity to thank the Graduate and Professional Women's Organization, Janet Northcott, Constance Natalis and the staff of *Almanac* for their support with this publication.
ABC Learning Center of Philadelphia, Inc.
4801 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19139
471-4234 or 471-5095
Director: Mrs. Morgan
Programs: Ages served by center—infants and up.
Infants: up to 18 months; staff/child ratio 1:3.
Toddlers: 18-36 months; staff/child ratio 1:5.
Preschoolers: 3 years and up; staff/child ratio 1:6.
Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Dates Center is Closed: Major holidays.
Application Fee: None
Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: Breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack.
Maximum Capacity of Center: 50
Center’s Objectives and Philosophy: To provide a variety of experiences that encourages total child development while responding to the individual child’s interests and need. To place a strong emphasis on educational programming with development of pre-math and pre-reading skills. To “invest in the future of your child.”

Drexel University Early Childhood Center
227 N. 34th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
895-2414 or 895-2415
Director: Mrs. Ronnie S. Levy
Programs: Ages served by center—3 to 5 years
Multi-aged grouping: 3, 4, & 5 year olds. Maximum group size: 23 in each group. Staff/child ratio: 1:8
Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Dates Center is Closed: Information unavailable.
Full Time Fees: Multi-aged grouping: $75/wk
* 1 week payment in advance required
Discount: Sliding scale fee based on income & current eligibility standards, and Drexel University
Dependent Care Reimbursements available.
Application fee: None
Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: Breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.
Maximum Capacity of Center: 49
Center’s Objective and Philosophy: To provide an environment which enhances a child’s physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development. To help parents to increase their understanding of child behavior and development through classroom participation, field trips, group meetings, and conferences.

Good Shepherd Day Care Center
314-18 South 46th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19143
471-4627 or 471-6287
Office Manager: Mrs. C. Porter
Programs: Ages served by center—2 to 5 years
Toddlers: pre-potty trained; staff/child ratio 1:4.
potty-trained; staff/child ratio 1:5.
Preschoolers: staff/child ratio 1:10.
Hours: Monday—Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Dates Center is Closed: Major holidays, severe weather, and if all public and parochial schools are closed.
Full Time Fees: Toddlers: $45/wk potty trained; $55/wk untrained. Discount: none
Application Fee: $10 registration fee; insurance fee at least one week in advance.
Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: None
Center’s Objectives and Philosophy: To attend to the special needs of each child physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially. To assist each child in the development of a positive self image. To provide activities for expressive and receptive language skills. To incorporate biblical teachings through stories, verses, and songs. To provide equal opportunity, regardless of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Infant Friendship Center
1001 S. 45th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
986-5097
Director: Mary Beth Kelly-Scher
Programs: Ages served by center—infants to 5 years.
Infants: 3-18 months, maximum group size 9, staff/child ratio 1:3.
Toddlers: 18-36 months, maximum group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.
Preschoolers: 3-5 years, maximum group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5.
Hours: Monday—Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Dates Center is Closed: 7 major holidays; the week between Christmas and New Year’s Day.
Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: Breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack.
Security: 4 wks deposit
Center’s Objectives and Philosophy: To nurture each child’s needs and pace of development. To offer a child experiences with both younger and older children. To provide strong programs not only for infants, but also for toddlers and pre-schoolers as well. To provide a familial environment. To practice sound principles associated with child development.

The ISI Caring Center for Children & Parents
3501 Filbert Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
386-8245
Director: Mrs. Susan Silverstein Mullner
Programs: Ages served by center—6 weeks to 5 years.
Infants: 6 weeks to 18 months, maximum group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.
Toddlers: 18-36 months, maximum group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.
Pre-kindergarteners: 3-5 years, maximum group size 20, staff/child ratio 1:10.
Kindergarteners: 5-6 years, maximum group size 20, staff/child ratio 1:10.
The pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs offer special cooking classes and computer awareness.
Part day: (7 hours) for infants, toddlers, and pre-kindergarteners. Early Care (7am to 8am) for infants, toddlers, and pre-kindergarteners. Extended care: (3pm to 6pm) Option for part day users, for toddlers, and pre-kindergarteners.
Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Dates Center is Closed: 8 national holidays.
Full Time Fees: Infant: $150/wk; Toddler: $117/wk; Pre-Kindergartener: $110/wk; Kindergartener: $100/wk. Discount: 10% for two or more children of the same family enrolled simultaneously.
Application fee: $20 per family—one-time non-refundable
Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: All meals and snacks; prepared in Center’s own kitchen.
Maximum Capacity of Center: 156
Center’s Objectives and Philosophy: To provide the highest quality developmental care and education for children ages 6 weeks through kindergarten. To support parents. To serve as a model in the professional community.

Ken-Crest Services
3637 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
387-4281
Director: Jane Reese
Programs: Center 1. (3700 Chestnut Street) Provides day care and transportation for disabled preschoolers.
Center 2. (3637 Chestnut Street) Ages served by center—18 months to 5 years.
Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Fees: Full-time: $95/week; Part-time: $2.50/hour
Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: snacks only, must provide own lunch
Maximum Capacity of Center: 35 (day care)
Center’s Objective and Philosophy: To provide developmentally based programming.
Nana Bear’s Love-n-Care Day Care Plus
5235 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19139
747-8866
Director: Ms. Ralinda A. Golback
Programs: Ages served by center—18 months to 5 years.

Toddler: maximum size 5, staff/child ratio 1:4. Pre-school: maximum size 5, staff/child ratio 1:6. Hours: Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dates Center is Closed: major holidays.


Maximum Capacity of Center: 30
Center’s Objectives and Philosophy: Information unavailable at time of publication.

The Parent Infant Center
4210 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
989-4106
Director: Ms. Marni Sweet
Programs: Ages served by center—3 months to 4 years.

Infants: 3 months—2 years, maximum group size: 12, staff/child ratio 1:3. Toddlers: 2 year olds, maximum group size: 12 staff/child ratio 1:4. Pre-schoolers: 3 & 4 year olds, maximum group size: 12-15, staff/child ratio 1:6

Family Day Care: Day care done in the homes of women in the University Community. This care is supervised by the Parent Infant Center staff.

Hours: 8 a.m.—6 p.m.

Dates Center is Closed: major holidays.


Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: Snacks; parents sends lunch.

Maximum Capacity of Center: 75
Center’s Objective and Philosophy: To provide loving and stimulating care in a safe environment. To emphasize experiences which promote self-esteem, group skills and conversation. To encourage children to develop at their own pace and in harmony with their own personalities. To work closely with parents by exchanging information, ideas, and by providing mutual support.

Saint Mary’s Cooperative Nursery School
3916 Locust Walk
3601 Locust Walk (mailing address)
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6224
386-0321
Director: Barbara Klein
Programs: Ages served by school—2-5 years.

Open classroom: 2-5 years, maximum group size 40, staff/child ratio 1:6.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dates School is Closed: School year runs September-May. Usually a program in June but no guarantee of such.


Snacks and Meals Provided by School: mid-morning/mid-afternoon snack, parent sends lunch.

Maximum Capacity of School: 40
School’s Objective and Philosophy: To involve parents in the classroom and in the daily operations of the school. To integrate children of varying ages. To provide exposure to studies in science, math, reading, art, and social studies. To offer the security of a loving and caring staff.

Saint Paul Community Day Care
3832 Haverford Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19104
386-9319
Director: Mrs. Emma Williams
Programs: Ages served by center—2½ to 5 years.

Hours: 8 a.m.—3 p.m.

Dates Center is Closed: all legal public school holidays.


Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: Breakfast, lunch, and snack.

Maximum Capacity of Center: information unavailable.

Center’s Objective and Philosophy: To prepare children for future academic performance in kindergarten and first grade. To gear curriculum toward activities that develop gross, fine, sensual, perceptual, motor skills. To place high emphasis on pre-reading, math, dramatics, writing, science, history, language, and much more.

University City Montessori School
51st & Spruce Street (NW corner)
Philadelphia, PA 19139
474-1599
Director: Mr. Bradley Sheeks
Programs: Ages served—18 months to 5½ years. Infants: 6-18 months, maximum group size 6, staff/child ratio 1:3. Toddlers: 18-36 months, maximum group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.

Preschoolers & Kindergarteners: 2½ to 5½ years, maximum group size 20, staff/child ratio 1:10.

Hours: Monday—Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dates School is Closed: major holidays.

Full Time Fees: Infant: $540/month; $25/day; Toddler: $520/month; $24/day; Preschooler: Kindergartner: $430/month; $20/day. Discount: $10 on total fee if more than one child.

Application fee: $100; Security deposits: information unavailable.

Snacks and Meals Provided by School: snacks.

Maximum Capacity of School: 6 infants, 12 toddlers, 30 preschoolers, and 10 kindergartners.

School’s Objective and Philosophy: To be committed to happy, healthy family life. To provide a high quality day care program in order to ensure peace of mind of parents, as well as the growth and development of child. To meet the needs of busy parents by offering extended hours and various time arrangements for bringing and retrieving children.

University City New School
42nd and Locust Streets (SW corner)
Philadelphia, PA 19104
382-3313
Director: Ms. Karen Feller
Programs: Ages served—K to sixth grade.

Kindergarten: 4½ to 6, maximum group size 20, staff/child ratio 1:10. First to Sixth Grade: 6-11, staff/child ratio 1:14. Dates School is Closed: information unavailable.

Full Time Fees: $3200 to $3500/academic year;

Discounts: Scholarship available; Application fee: $20; Security deposits: $200

Snacks and Meals Provided by School: Afternoon snack for kindergarten.

Maximum Capacity of School: 40
School’s Objective and Philosophy: To put children first and to emphasize their physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development. To work to foster independence and resourcefulness in children who respect and care for others and who have a strong sense of themselves as responsible, questioning members of society.

Walnut Street Center
37th and Lancaster Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19104
382-7722
Director: Ms. Abbie Johnson

Programs: Ages served by center—3 years and up.

Pre-school I: 3 years and up, maximum group size 30, staff/child ratio 1:10.

Pre-school II: 4 years and up, maximum group size 22, staff/child ratio 1:12.

2 Kindergartens: 5 years, maximum group size 22, staff/child ratio 1:11.

School-age: 1st grade and up, maximum group size 30, staff/child ratio 1:12.

Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Dates Center is Closed: Christmas Week, legal holidays.

Full Time Fees: Sliding Scale: pre-school $12 to $70; school-age $9 to $52.50

Discount: Reduction for additional children, no payment for school closings.

Application fee: none. Security fee: none

Snacks and Meals Provided by Center: Breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack.

Maximum Capacity of Center: 137
Center’s Objective and Philosophy: To provide child care services for parents working, in training, or studying. To help children grow and learn in a safe environment which fosters complete development.
Finding the Centers

Key to Centers
1. ABC Learning Center of Philadelphia, Inc.
2. Drexel University Early Childhood Center
3. Good Shepherd Day Care Center
4. Infant Friendship Center
5. The ISI Caring Center for Children & Parents
6. Ken-Crest Services
7. Nana Bear's Love-n-Care Day Care Plus
8. University City Montessori School
9. University City New School
10. Philadelphia Infants' Friendship Center
11. Penn Children's Center
12. Walnut Street Center
13. Saint Mary's Cooperative Nursery School
14. Saint Paul Community Day Care

Child Care Check List

Child care centers vary considerably in terms of both provisions and objectives. Ideally, a chosen center offers developmental programs that match the individual need of the child, reflect the parental values, and also meet the needs of the parents. Here is a check list of matters to consider while in the process of assessing the different centers.

Program
Parental observation/visitation
Parental participation in programming, evaluation and decision making
Parent-teacher communication
Posting of daily schedule and activities
Individual notes on child status
Conference/evaluations
Center-wide newsletters
Periodic evaluation of each child's status and development
Monitoring of absent children to establish reason for absence
Monitoring of who picks up child
Teachers/caretakers maintain a list of who is eligible to pick up child
Picture identification is used to establish ID of anyone not known to teacher prior to their releasing the child
Maintenance by both teacher/caretaker and administration of current parental and emergency contact numbers
Follows DPW (minimum) staff/child ratio physically present
Infant (up to 18 months) 1:4
Toddler (18-36 months) 1:5
Pre-School (3-6 years) 1:10

Variety choice of programs including individual, small and large group activities
Quiet play, active play
Dependable consistent care through:
Low staff turnover
On-going staff training
Physical presence of teacher with children at all times
Affectional communication levels that encourage teacher/child interaction and respect for individual differences
Maintenance of kindly, not punitive, tone
Socialization methods
Equal access for boys and girls
"Sensible" toilet training
Referral service (hearing/vision screening)

Physical Space
Adequate cots/cribs
Variety of places where different activities take place
Age appropriate and scaled toys/furniture equipment
Adequate, accessible toilet facilities
Adequate storage facilities for both school supplies and child's items
Separate area to accommodate sick child (has bed, sink, first aid supplies . . . ) which allows for staff to remain with and monitor child
Indoor and outdoor facilities that allow for full range of development (open and covered outdoor space; contiguous indoor/outdoor space)
Heat/light/ventilation levels

Safety/Health
Poisons are kept locked
Poison control number and first aid procedures visibly accessible
Smoking prohibited in child areas
Fire and Life Safety Program and Equipment:
Currently inspected
Fire extinguisher
Smoke detectors
Alarm system
Visible, easy to follow, emergency exit plan
Well marked exits
Regular fire drill practices
Prevention and safety education program for older children
Capped electrical outlets
Covered heating units/vents
Stable age appropriate furniture
Limited open windows to prevent child exit or injury
First Aid supplies
Nutritious meals, healthful snacks

Cleanliness
Floors
Eating Areas
Bathrooms
Play areas

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