



**Youngstown City Schools
Early Childhood
Parent Handbook
2019-2020**

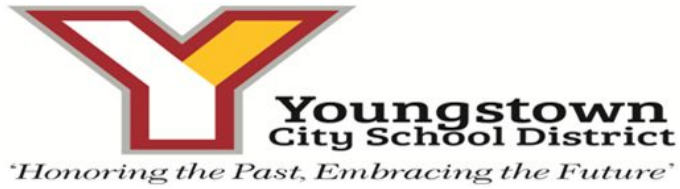


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Introduction

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Youngstown City School Preschool. Our Preschool is designed to meet the needs of regular and special education students. This handbook contains information regarding our philosophy, policies and procedures for Youngstown City Schools Preschool. Our goal is to create a warm, nurturing environment where children and families can learn and grow. We are pleased that you have chosen to include us in the growth and development of your child. License, compliance report forms, and inspection forms are available upon request.

Our Vision

“The Youngstown City Early Childhood Education Program’s focus is to create lifelong learners by providing a nurturing environment that promotes self-help skills as well as cognitive, social-emotional, and physical development of all children. This goal will be achieved by implementing play-based, exciting activities that include discovery and exploration through

collaboration with families and the community through field trips, family involvement projects, parent meetings, and community visitors. It is the desire of the Youngstown City Early Childhood Education Program and caring staff that the school climate promotes value, respect, safety, inclusion and appreciation for all children and families.”

Our Values and Philosophy

We believe in the potential for each child to succeed. We believe that children, families and the community deserve exemplary services. We believe educational opportunities that promote lifelong learning for staff, families and the community are essential. The needs, interests and abilities of each child will be met through quiet and active play.

Program and Goals

Youngstown City Schools Preschool provides comprehensive services to children from ages 3-5. Services include education, health, nutrition, parent involvement, and assessment. The selection of developmentally appropriate materials, equipment and resources is done to meet intellectual, physical, social, and emotional needs. All educational programs are available regardless of race, color, creed, disability, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin or social or economic background.

School Calendar

The Youngstown City Schools Preschool will follow the calendar of the school district. If schools in the district are closed due to inclement weather, all preschool classes will be closed. The Preschool program will have scheduled waiver days throughout the school year.

Operating Schedule

- Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:15 pm - Staff will not be available before or after the set school times.

Our program consists of a curriculum that builds throughout the year. In order to ensure all preschool students are receiving a quality education, it is imperative that students are present and arrive on time daily.

Preschool students must arrive before 9:30 am or they will be excluded for that day.

** Exceptions include a written doctor’s excuse or therapy excuse.

Daily Activities

- Arrival/Sign in
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack
- Large Group Activities
- Cooperative Play Centers
- Intervention

- Small Group Activities
- Nap/Rest (Optional/Not mandatory)
- Gross Motor/Physical Education/Outdoor Experiences
- Music a & Movement
- Mindfulness Activities
- Social - Emotional Learning Activities

Enrollment

A. Registration

It is necessary for all families interested in Youngstown City Schools Preschool to register. In addition to filling out a registration form, an emergency medical form is also required. Items such as immunization records, copy of birth certificate, current proof of residency, medical card, and income verification are collected at the time of registration. A medical evaluation/health record including immunizations are required annually for children in the preschool program. The Ohio Department of Education~Office of Early Learning and School Readiness requires that the above medical evaluation be done by a licensed physician. In addition, please be sure we get copies of custody papers if this applies to your child. Prior to a child beginning the Youngstown City School District preschool program, a parent/legal guardian must attend a mandatory orientation. During the orientation, parents will be provided with the program rules and policies

B. Physicals: Medical and Dental

For newly enrolled students: State regulations require that each child must have a physical and dental exam completed within 30 days after the start of school. Immunization must be completed and up-to-date before the first day of school. A copy of the immunization record must be on file prior to the start of school.

Returning students will require current medical and dental prior to school beginning.

C. Medical and Dental Emergency Plan

In case of accident or injury, the parent will be notified immediately. Each child shall have on file, an emergency medical and transportation authorization form.

Management Procedures

A. Attendance

Children begin developing habits and patterns in preschool that they will carry with them into their public school years. The importance of attending school must be learned at an early age. Although preschool is not mandatory, it is the expectation that your child attends daily to ensure a continuum of services. School attendance is expected every day unless the child is ill. This is a great time to encourage positive habits. On days when your child is ill or will not be attending school, please call their preschool teacher prior to 9:30 a.m. Please send a written excuse when your child returns to school. When a child is absent a call from the district will be made as attendance will be monitored closely.

Children enrolled in Youngstown City Schools Preschool will be withdrawn from the program if they are absent for more than 10 days without an appropriate excuse.

B. Transportation

Transportation is available for all preschool children within the city limits and based on the school boundaries. **It is the policy of the preschool program, if a change in transportation occurs, parents/guardians must call the preschool office. Please allow at least three days for transportation changes.** You may need to transport your child during that time. No telephone call requests for same day transportation changes can be honored. This policy is in effect for the safety of our students. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that someone is at the designated drop off location when the bus arrives following preschool. If there is no one at home, the child will be transported to the Youngstown City School District bus garage and a parent/guardian will be responsible to pick the child up.

Alternate transportation form: Any child that requires to be transported to or from an alternate location other than the home address, the form can be requested from the Early Childhood Office.

Youngstown City Schools Busing, 330-744-5906

C. Naptime Procedures

A full-day program serving preschool children shall offer a nap/rest period that is reflected in the daily written program. Since nap time is not mandatory, instruction will continue throughout the day based on the class schedule. Nap/rest periods shall not exceed one and one-half hours in the daily schedule for any child in a full-day program. A quiet space for children who want to rest or nap shall be provided. At least one preschool staff member shall be physically present in the room at all times during nap/rest time. Each child will have their own individual cot for exclusive use. Any blankets used by the children will need to be laundered at least once per week or as needed.

D. Continuum of Services

In accordance with state and federal law, the Youngstown City Schools Preschool Program offers a continuum of services:

- Full Day Program servicing both students with a disability and typically developing students;
- Itinerant Services provided within the child's program placement.

E. Change of Address and Phone Number

Report changes to the teacher/Early Childhood Office (330) 744-7324, immediately in the event we need to contact you. Proof of residency will need submitted. Update the Emergency contacts form as necessary.

F. Withdrawal/Moving

It is important to notify the office if you are withdrawing your child. Upon enrollment of a new school district, preschool records can be requested from the Early Childhood Office by a parent/guardian or enrolling school.

Parent Involvement

A. Conferences

Conferences are held twice a year. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend both. This provides an opportunity to see your child's classroom, discuss progress, and develop plans for your child's learning experience. Additional conferences may be scheduled at the request of the family or the teacher. Your Early Childhood teacher will make every effort to schedule conferences at convenient times for the family.

Information regarding child development and progress is shared with parents at a minimum of twice per year during established parent/teacher conference sessions, and more often as is needed.

B. Parent Concerns, Questions

If there is ever a concern or question that you have about the Youngstown City Schools Preschool Program, please discuss them with your child's teacher. The teacher may not be able to discuss your concern immediately, but will make arrangements to contact you within a 24-hour period. Parent surveys will be sent out each school year to help us gain a parent's perspective. If a good solution cannot be reached, call:

- Early Childhood Supervisor: Melissa Puhalla (330) 744-7325
- Early Childhood Coordinator: Emily Walker (330) 744-7382

Annual fire and health inspections are available upon request, as are preschool licensure inspections and licenses.

C. Opportunities for Participation

Operating the best preschool program calls for many people to work together, share their talents, knowledge, and energy. The more parents and staff invest in the program, the greater the rewards are for the children.

There are many opportunities for parents to be involved. Some of the possibilities are listed as follows:

1. Participation in the classroom as a volunteer.
2. Planning and participating in activities for all parents.
3. Working with your children at home in cooperation with program staff.
4. The opportunity to express ideas, concerns, and needs through the parent survey.

Parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Suggestions and preferences are a

valued part of the program. Parents are welcome to visit their child's classroom at any time. However, in order to use the visitation time in a productive manner, we ask that you let the teacher know ahead of time so that volunteer activities can be planned.

**ALL VISITORS MUST REPORT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO SIGN IN PRIOR TO
GOING TO THEIR CHILD'S CLASSROOM**

D. Parent Roster

A parent roster for each group of children in the program, consisting of the name and telephone number of the child and of the child's parents, will be prepared and made available to each parent upon request. Each parent will be asked to provide a signed statement indicating whether such individual desires to be included in the roster. The roster will not be furnished to any other person other than a parent. Please contact the program supervisor or classroom teacher for the roster.

E. Confidentiality

Confidentiality refers to the privacy of child and family records and information. The Youngstown City Schools Preschool Program considers all information concerning children and families to be confidential. The right of privacy is an inalienable right of all persons, and each staff member and program volunteer (including parents) are obligated to safeguard information obtained about children and families. All staff and volunteers will be asked to sign a confidentiality pledge. Federal laws and regulations do not protect any information regarding suspected child abuse or neglect from being reported.

Anyone who has a complaint about this program may call the Ohio Department of Education Ombudsman at (614) 466-4839 or the Office of Early Childhood Education at (614) 995- 9974.

THE CLASSROOM

A. Classroom Ratio – (Preschool)

There is one (1) teacher and (1) educational assistant to every twenty (20) children. A qualified substitute is available in the absence of the teacher or educational assistant.

B. Curriculum/Assessment/Screening

The Creative Curriculum has been adopted by the Youngstown City Schools Preschool Program as its' curriculum and evaluation system. It consists of developmentally appropriate activities and approaches which meet the individual needs of children. This curriculum is aligned with the Early Learning and Developmental Content Standards adopted by the Ohio State Board of Education.

Each day the teaching team members gather accurate information about children by observing and interacting with children and taking daily anecdotal notes based on what they see and hear. Before the children arrive, after they leave, teaching team members engage in daily planning

sessions, in which they share their observations of children, analyze the observations and make plans for the next day. Your child's preschool teacher has a full understanding of child development and provides daily instruction in a child-friendly environment.

The Early Learning Assessment (ELA) is the formative assessment component of Ohio's comprehensive early childhood assessment system called Ready for Kindergarten. It is required to be administered two times per year. Teachers are required to administer the ASQ:SE (Social-Emotional) one time per year to all children and the Early Childhood Outcome Summary one time per year to students with special needs.

During your child's school year, Youngstown City Schools will screen height, weight, vision and hearing as part of the health screening. Developmental screenings will be conducted by the classroom teacher. A screening must be completed with each child except those with an IEP, within 45 days of entry into the program. The evaluation process is ongoing throughout the year. Assessments are critical to determine whether learning is occurring. Age-appropriate assessments will occur regularly to measure student progress in the program. The data is available to parents during conferences and upon request.

The central principles of the curriculum include:

1. Age Appropriateness - Human development research indicates that there are universal, predictable sequences of growth and change that occur in children the first 9 years of life. These predictable changes occur in all domains of development – physical, emotional, social, and cognitive. Knowledge of typical development of children within the age span served by the program provides a framework from which teachers prepare the learning environment and plan appropriate experiences.
2. Individual Appropriateness - Each child is a unique person with an individual pattern and timing of growth, as well as individual personality, learning style and family background. Both the curriculum and adult's interactions with children should be responsive to individual differences. Learning in young children is the result of interaction between the child's thoughts and experiences with materials, ideas, and people. These experiences should match the child's developing abilities, while also challenging the child's interest and understanding.

C. Staff

Staff licenses, health reports and background checks (BCI and FBI) are available upon request. Staff members are trained in first-aid, recognition and management of communicable diseases, child abuse awareness training and medical administration.

D. Breakfast/Lunch/Snacks

Free breakfast is available in the AM for all children. Children will also receive a mid-morning snack. Lunch will be served in the PM. Menus are posted in your child's room.

E. Discipline

A positive classroom environment is maintained through the use of encouragement and specific praise. The ultimate goal is for the children to learn self-control and self-direction. In this way they

develop positive self-esteem and self-confidence. Offering appropriate choices while setting limits to maintain feelings of safety and emotional security are an important part of this process.

In setting limits, we begin by encouraging appropriate behavior. When more structure is necessary; modeling, redirecting, prompting and providing choices are attempted, typically in that order. Other developmentally appropriate techniques include; redirection, separation from the problem, talking to the child and praising appropriate behavior. Occasionally, a short thinking period is necessary for the child to regain his/her self-control and return to learning.

Children learn to solve problems through practice. It is important not to interfere too quickly in children's disputes with one another. The teacher and parent's role should be to facilitate a solution to the problem that everyone can accept.

Parents volunteering in the classroom should permit the staff to handle disciplinary problems that may occur. This prevents interruptions from normal preschool routines.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Any conduct which causes disruption or creates a threat to the health and safety of others is prohibited.

The preceding is a general standard that is to be used as a guide by all students. Not all acts of misconduct can be itemized. The following are some of the main areas of conduct which will lead to disciplinary actions.

1. Causing damage to or destroying school or private property;
2. Causing or attempting to cause physical injury or harm to any student or other person;
3. Interfering with school purposes or with the orderly operation of the school by using, threatening to use, or causing other persons to use violence, force, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear or disruptive means;
4. Possessing, using or transmitting any object that in fact or under the circumstances can be considered an explosive or harmful device;
5. Using profane, indecent or obscene language either verbally or in writing toward any student, teacher or any other person. Included in this prohibition would be the use of indecent or obscene gestures, signs, pictures or publications;
6. Failure to comply with the directions of teachers, student teachers, school assistants, bus drivers; aides, administrator or other authorized personnel. All school personnel are authorized to make rules to apply to their classrooms or busses which will aid in efficiency;
7. Persistent disobedience or gross misconduct not otherwise defined.

The penalty for the violation of these rules will be decided solely upon by the administrative staff. Such action can come in the form of counseling, parent conferences or rearrangement of class schedules.

A parent/guardian/caregiver may be requested to pick up their child at school in the event of

intense behavior continues.

3301-37-10 BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT/DISCIPLINE

(A) A preschool staff member in charge of a child or a group of children shall be responsible for their discipline.

(B) The center shall have a written discipline policy describing the center's philosophy of discipline and the specific methods of discipline used at the center. This written policy shall be on file at the center for review. Constructive, developmentally appropriate child guidance and management techniques are to be used at all times, and shall include such measures as redirection, separation from problem situations, talking with the child about the situation and positive reinforcement for appropriate behavior.

(C) Behavior management/discipline policies and procedures shall ensure the safety, physical, and emotional well-being of all individuals on the premises.

(D) The center's actual methods of discipline shall apply to all persons on the premises and shall be restricted as follows:

(1) There shall be no cruel, harsh, corporal punishment or any unusual punishments such as, but not limited to, punching, pinching, shaking, spanking, or biting.

(2) No discipline shall be delegated to any other child.

(3) No physical restraints shall be used to confine a child by any means other than holding a child for a short period of time, such as in a protective hug, so the child may regain control.

(4) No child shall be placed in a locked room or confined in an enclosed area such as a closet, a box or similar cubicle.

(5) No child shall be subjected to profane language, threats, derogatory remarks about himself or his family or other verbal abuse.

(6) Discipline shall not be imposed on a child for failure to eat, failure to sleep or for toileting accidents.

(7) Techniques of discipline shall not humiliate, shame, or frighten a child.

(8) Discipline shall not include withholding food, rest, or toilet use and food shall not be used as a reward for behavior.

(9) Separation, when used as discipline shall be brief in duration and appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability, and the child shall be within sight and hearing of a preschool staff member in a safe, lighted, and well-ventilated space.

(10) The center shall not abuse or neglect children and shall protect children from abuse and neglect while in attendance in the preschool program.

(E) The parent of a child enrolled in a center shall receive the center's written discipline policy.

(F) All preschool staff members shall receive a copy of the center's discipline policy for review upon employment.

E. Dress Requirements

Your child will work and play in preschool everyday! Please dress them in play clothes and sturdy shoes. Pull-on clothing is suggested for children who can not do buttons, snaps, zippers, buckles, or

other fasteners. Slip-On shoes or shoes with Velcro fasteners are required for children who can not yet tie shoes.

Your child's clothing may become wet or dirty at school. Please send an extra set of clothing for the exclusive use of your child which includes shirts, pants, socks and undergarments.

Outdoor play is an important part of your preschooler's day. The children go out for brief walks and gross motor play. Please dress your child for the weather. During cold weather your child should have hats, mittens, boots, and a warm coat. When boots are worn, please send a pair of shoes for indoor wear.

F. Field Trips

Field trips are an essential part of your child's learning experience. You will be notified of the trip ahead of time. For your child's safety, we often need extra adult supervision. Parents are encouraged to volunteer for field trips. No child may go on a field trip without written consent of the parent or guardian. If a parent volunteers to assist with a field trip, other family members/children/friends are not permitted to attend.

G. Picking Children Up

According to the Ohio Department of Education, Preschool Licensing Rules, preschool children cannot be unattended at anytime during the school day. Preschool students are not permitted to enter the school building without an adult. This means they may not be escorted to the classroom or picked up by an older sibling, older students or older relatives. If students are dropped off without an adult, the student will be withdrawn from the program due to violating the Preschool licensing rules. More importantly, this is to ensure the safety of all students.

Children will only be released to individuals named on the Authorization Form as having permission to pick up your child at school. Please inform the individuals that they are on your list, and that they will need to bring a form of identification with them when picking up your child. If a situation arises in which you wish an individual other than those named on the list to pick up your child, a written note, signed by you, must be sent to the teacher stating the name of the individual who will be picking up the child.

Parents are asked to call the classroom teacher if they are going to be late. In the event that a parent or the designated individual does not arrive at the designated time, staff will attempt to reach the parent and emergency contacts. If neither the parents nor emergency contacts are available and have not contacted the school within 30 minutes of the dismissal time (3:15 pm), the police and Mahoning County Children Services will be contacted.

Please be considerate of our staff in following the program dismissal times, with the exception of an extreme emergency. If late pick ups continue more than 3 times, a child may be withdrawn from the program unless alternate transportation arrangements are made.

Under the laws of the State of Ohio, both parents may have the right to pick up their child, unless a

court document restricts that right. The enrolling parent, who chooses not to include the child's other parent on the authorized pick-up list, must file an official court document (e.g., current restraining order, sole custody decree, divorce decree stating sole custody). Without that document, the school may release the child to either parent, provided the parent documents his paternity/her maternity of the child.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

3301-37-11 MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

(A) A person trained to recognize the common signs of communicable disease or other illness shall observe each child daily as he enters a group. A "person trained to recognize the common signs of communicable disease" means any person trained in prevention, recognition, and management of communicable diseases as required by paragraph (D) of rule 3301-37-07 of the Administrative Code.

(B) The following precautions shall be taken for children suspected of having a communicable disease:

(1) The program shall immediately notify the parent or guardian of the child's condition when a child has been observed with signs or symptoms of illness.

(2) A child with any of the following signs or symptoms of illness shall be immediately isolated and discharged to his parent or guardian:

- (a) Diarrhea (more than one abnormally loose stool within a twenty-four-hour period);
- (b) Severe coughing, causing the child to become red or blue in the face or to make a whooping sound;
- (c) Difficult or rapid breathing;
- (d) Yellowish skin or eyes;
- (e) Conjunctivitis;
- (f) Temperature of one hundred degrees Fahrenheit taken by the auxiliary method when in combination with other signs of illness;
- (g) Untreated infected skin patch (es);
- (h) Unusually dark urine and/or grey or white stool; or
- (i) Stiff neck; or
- (j) Evidence of lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestation.

(3) A child with any of the following signs or symptoms of illness shall be immediately isolated from other children. Decisions regarding whether the child should be discharged immediately or at some other time during the day shall be determined by the director and the parent or guardian. The child, while isolated at the program, shall be carefully watched for symptoms listed in paragraph (B,2) of this rule as well as the following:

- (a) Unusual spots or rashes;
- (b) Sore throat or difficulty in swallowing;
- (c) Elevated temperature; or
- (d) Vomiting.

(4) Programs shall follow the Ohio department of health "communicable disease chart" (September 2009, odjfs.state.oh.us/forms) for appropriate management of suspected illnesses.

(5) A child isolated due to suspected communicable disease shall be:

- (a) Cared for in a room or portion of a room not being used in the preschool program;
- (b) Within sight and hearing of an adult at all times. No child shall ever be left alone or

unsupervised;

(c) Made comfortable and provided with a cot. All linens and blankets used by the ill child shall be laundered before being used by another child. After use, the cots shall be disinfected with an appropriate germicidal agent, or, if soiled with blood, feces, vomit, or other body fluids, the cots shall be cleaned with soap and water and then disinfected with an appropriate germicidal agent;

(d) Observed carefully for worsening condition; and

(e) Discharged to parent, guardian, or person designated by the parent or guardian as soon as practical.

(C) Each program shall have a written policy concerning the management of communicable disease. The policy shall include, at a minimum:

(1) The program's means of training all preschool staff in signs and symptoms of illness and in hand-washing and disinfection procedures;

(2) Procedures for isolating and discharging an ill child and policy for readmitting such child;

(3) Procedures for notifying the parent or guardian immediately when a child is exhibiting signs or symptoms of illness or has been exposed to a communicable disease; and

(4) Procedures regarding the care of a mildly ill child. "Mildly ill child" means a child who is experiencing minor common cold symptoms, but who is not exhibiting any of the symptoms specified in paragraph (B) of this rule or a child who does not feel well enough to participate in activities, but who is not exhibiting any of the symptoms specified in paragraph (B) of this rule.

(5) Procedures for notifying all parents of enrolled children when children are exposed to a diagnosed communicable diseases such as pink eye, ringworm, chicken pox, or lice.

Administration of Medication

a. Because administration of medication is an additional responsibility for staff, and having medication in the facility is a safety hazard; parents/guardians need to check with the child's physician to see if a dose schedule can be arranged that does not involve the hours the child is in the classroom. Whenever possible, the first dose of medication should be given at home to see if the child has any type of reaction. Parents/guardians may administer medication to their own child during school hours.

b. Medication having to be administered during school hours will be done so by the nurse. The medication needs to be in the original, child resistant container and labeled by a pharmacist with the child's name, the name of the medication; the date the prescription was filled; the name of the health care provider who wrote the prescription; the medication's expiration date; and administration, storage and disposal instructions.

c. A physician may state that a certain medication may be given for a recurring problem, emergency situation, or chronic condition. Examples of recurring problems or emergency situations include but are not limited to asthma or bee stings.

d. Medications are kept at the temperature recommended for that type of medication, in sturdy, child-resistant, closed containers that are inaccessible to children and prevent spillage. Medications are kept in a locked cabinet or file drawer.

e. Medication is not used beyond the date of expiration on the container or beyond any expiration of the instructions provided by the physician or other person legally permitted to prescribe

medication.

f. Food allergies must be documented and signed by a physician. Food allergy documentation is valid for the current school year. A parent/guardian cannot sign the documentation in lieu of a physician. Foods are omitted from the menu due to religious or cultural reasons upon the parent/guardian's written request.

g. "Incident Report" forms are completed on children who exhibit unusual behavior or who have a physical accident. Any questions pertaining to the completion of the form are directed to the School Nurse. Staff members complete the Incident Report Form. All incident reports are kept on file for a minimum of a year.

Safety Policy

- No child shall be left alone or unsupervised.
- Fire emergency and weather alert plans are posted in each classroom.
- Children will climb only on equipment designated for climbing.
- All staff is trained in child abuse /neglect and are required by law to notify Children's Services if they suspect any abuse or neglect has or is occurring.
- Children will be allowed to leave the classroom only with parent or designated person.

Healthchek Services for Children Younger than Age 21

Healthchek is Ohio's Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program. It is a service package for babies, kids, and young adults younger than age 21 who are enrolled on Ohio Medicaid.

The purpose of Healthchek is to discover and treat health problems early. If a potential health problem is found, further diagnosis and treatment are covered by Medicaid.

Healthchek covers ten check-ups in the first two years of life and annual check-ups thereafter and offers a comprehensive physical examination that includes:

- medical history
- complete unclothed exam (with parent approval)
- developmental screening (to assess if a child's physical and mental abilities are age appropriate)
- vision screening

- dental screening
- hearing assessment
- immunization assessment (making sure child receives them on time)
- [lead screening](#); and
- other services or screenings as needed

If your children are enrolled in Ohio Medicaid, Healthchek services are available to them. If you are younger than age 21 and are also enrolled, you can receive Healthchek services, too.

For more information:

- Read the Healthchek and Pregnancy Related Services Information Sheet: [English \(Instructions\)](#), [en Español](#) or [Somali](#)
- Read about [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

If you still have questions about Healthchek, send us a note through the [Healthchek Questions](#) form.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our thanks to the Ohio Department of Education for the development of the Early Learning Content Standards (2008) and the Preschool Licensing Rules (2009), as well as the Mahoning County Educational Service Center. We use information from their documents as a framework and as guidance for the Parent Handbook. The Ohio Department of Education website at www.ode.state.oh.us has information about early childhood education and all public education in Ohio. All families are invited to access this information.

The Youngstown City School District website at www.ycsd.org has information about the district, as well as policies and procedures which govern its programs. All families are invited to access this information.