



FAMILY HANDBOOK

**150 SCHOOL HOUSE ROAD
WESTMINSTER, SC 29693
864-571-650**

(Updated January 2025)

Welcome to Our Program

We would like to welcome you to Homestead Academy. We are very glad to have you with us and look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship. This handbook is designed to inform you about our childcare program. Our goal is to provide high quality childcare in a loving play-based environment. By satisfying our families' needs for high quality childcare, we ensure they will continue to use our center and will recommend us to other parents. Throughout this handbook, you will gain insight into expectations that have been established for families. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the director. We will be happy to assist you.

Welcome From Ms. Donna

Hello and Thank you for joining our family here at Homestead Academy! I am excited to share in the journey of your child's early years of life. During the first five to seven years of life a child learns and grows faster than at any other time and I firmly believe this is the most critical window for developing physically, cognitively, and socially. It is my goal to surround each child here with the love and security they need to reach their full potential.

Sincerely,

Donna Bradberry

Owner/Director

Our Mission Statement

Here at Homestead Academy we believe every child is unique and amazing. Children learn best through play and interaction with the world around them. We are committed to providing a safe, fun, loving environment for your child where he/she can grow and become their best self.

Our Philosophy

We believe that learning is holistic. Social, emotional, physical, communicative, and intellectual aspects of the self interact to produce growth. This learning process is based upon developmental achievements, the child's individual style of learning and experiential background. Each child is unique.

We believe that most of life's learning, including how to learn, occurs in the first five years of life. Children learn by active exploration, manipulation, and concrete experience. These aspects form the foundation for more abstract learning that allow the children to question, reason, create, and engage in meaningful interactions with others. The primary medium for young children's learning is play.

The nature and needs of the individual child are recognized. The child can attain meaning and mastery within the environment through social interactions with peers, the teacher and other nurturing adults. Close communication between parent and teacher is necessary for optimum growth. The family is always the child's primary educator and the school's role is to support the family.

The following principles are excerpted from the SC Early Learning Standards and serve as the foundation for our curriculum.

- Children develop knowledge of their world through active interactions with caregivers, peers, materials, and events.
- Learning is sequential, building on prior understandings and experiences.
- Learning proceeds at different rates in each area and each child; children will show a range of skills and understandings in any one area of development.
- Learning in each area is interconnected. Young children learn best through experiences, which incorporate several areas of development.
- Learning is embedded in a culture. Children learn best when their learning activities are rooted in a familiar cultural context.
- Learning begins in the family, continues in early care and education settings, and depends on parent involvement and caregiver guidance.
- All children have the potential to achieve the SC Early Learning Standards with appropriate support and instruction.

Our Program

The Center is licensed by the SC Department of Social Services Child Care Licensing. The re-licensing process is repeated every two years and includes visits from the Health Department and the State Fire Marshal. Unannounced visits are conducted by DSS to ensure consistent adherence to state standards.

All staff are expected to be knowledgeable about South Carolina Licensing Rules and Regulations for Child Care and are expected to follow all procedures as outlined in those Rules and Regulations for the care of children. Any violations of licensing regulations must be immediately reported to the Director or Assistant Director. Failure to comply with regulations or report violations may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Every classroom has a copy of the licensing regulations, and these may be referenced at any time. Regulations may also be found on the DSS website: www.scchildcare.org.

Our Program Goals

- To help the children in our care develop a positive view of themselves and others.
- To help the children in our care develop a genuine love of learning.
- To help the children in our care develop an appreciation for the differences among people and how to celebrate those differences.
- To help the children in our care to learn how to cooperate and be a positive member of a community.
- To help the children in our care to develop the basic skills in key content areas of literacy, mathematics, science, technology, creative expression and the arts, health and safety and social studies that prepares them for the next level of learning.

About Us

- Licensed by the South Carolina Department of Social Services
- A year-round program, run on a first come, first served basis.
- Open to enrollment for programs for children between six weeks to 12 years of age.
- Our program operates from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.
- Meals are served: AM Snack served at 8:00 a.m. Lunch served at 11:00 a.m. and afternoon snack is served at 2:00 pm after nap time.
- Provides a comprehensive age-appropriate program with loving teachers
- Offers a school-age program with summer and holiday camp available
- The program practices a play-based curriculum. A planned, prepared environment is the structure for the learning experience that is available to the children. A balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed activities is provided to characterize the "learning through play" philosophy.
- Our goals stress the individuality of each child in order to shape the social, intellectual and psychological well being of the child. We feel this is important to the developmental stages of all children. We hope to contribute to the achievements that will enable the children to grow into independent thinkers and responsible adults.

Program Standards

The Center adheres to the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS) requirements and standards of licensing requirements; the enhanced program standards of Child Care the Development Block Grant (CCDBG) under the ABC voucher program, and our state's fire and sanitation codes.

DSS License

The Center is licensed by the SC Department of Social Services. The re-licensing process is repeated every two years and includes visits from the Health Department and the State Fire Marshal. Unannounced visits are conducted by DSS to ensure consistent adherence to state standards.

Business Hours

Homestead Academy operates from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. All children must be signed in by 9am so we can staff our rooms appropriately for the day. **The Center is open year-round, with the exception of holiday and bad weather closings.**

Enrollment Process

Enrollment forms required according the State of South Carolina DSS Child Care Licensing and by Homestead Academy:

- 1) Up-to-date immunization form and doctor statement verifying each child's health, must be completed and on file before a child attends the Center.
- 2) Enrollment form (Form 2900 and completed yearly)
- 3) Enrollment application and family history forms
- 4) Signed policies and procedures (Yearly)
- 5) Homestead Academy will maintain a waiting list in chronological order of applications received with preference being given to siblings of enrolled children and to Homestead Academy
- 6) It is the responsibility of the child's parent/legal guardian to notify Homestead Academy, in writing, of any changes made to the information submitted about your child(ren) after these forms are filed. Information includes, but is not limited to, changes in phone numbers, emergency contacts, allergy information, medication requirements, etc.
- 7) A non-refundable registration fee for each child admitted to or returning to the program will be assessed. (Please see Registration Fee in the Tuition Rates section.)

Helping Children Adjusting to Homestead Academy

Separation anxiety is typical for some young children and usually short lived (thank goodness). Even though children are excited and happy to come to Homestead Academy, when it is time to say good-bye to parents, they may become sad and display tears or reluctance. We realize it is very difficult for a parent to leave an upset child and we encourage you to contact us, via our ProCare app, to see how your child is doing. Be assured that should a child have difficulty calming after a tearful goodbye, we would contact the parents. As they adjust, your child will gradually display less and less anxiety and more eagerness for the new experience's we provide. Patience, support, reassurance and encouragement are the ingredients needed to assist the child through this process of adjusting to childcare. Children find it very helpful to have a consistent routine each day upon arrival at Homestead Academy, for example:

- Sign your child in on the computer near the front
- Put away your child's things on their hook in the hallway or cubby in the classroom
- Greet the teacher
- Give your child a hug and kiss good-by, reassuring them you will be back and you can't wait to hear about all the fun things they do today
- Leave your child with their teacher

This types of routine, on an everyday basis, helps children understand what comes next in the sequence and allows them to prepare for the goodbye. If your child does cry, one of the Homestead Academy teachers will ask if she/he can help you, this allows you to decide if you want the staff member to help your child as you leave by holding and reassuring her or him. Should you ever have any questions or concerns about separation, please do not hesitate to talk with your child's teacher or the Director.

We follow South Carolina Staff/Child Ratio and Classroom Structure

Child's Age	DSS Staff: Child Ratio	ABC
Birth to one year	1:5	1:4
One to two years	1:6	1:5
Two to three years	1:8	1:7
Three to four years	1:12	1:11
Four to five years	1:17	1:13
Five to six years	1:20	1:15
Six to twelve years	1:23	1:18

Tracking of Children While in the Center

Staff use a tracking form to note:

- Arrival
- Movement to another room in the center or the playground
- Therapy times
- Departure from the center

Staff will maintain a daily record that is submitted to the office. Staff may note items of importance to remember or concerns for records and tracking purposes.

Communication with Parents

Relationships are at the heart of all we do, and communicating appropriately with parents each day is an important part of this. Support for parent communication will be in the child's home language whenever possible or a translation may be provided. All assessments and developmental checklists are available in home languages. If you need items in language other than English please see the director to have that need met. We work hard to ensure all families receive effective communication.

At Drop-off:

- When you drop off your child, you should be greeted with a smile from each teacher you see. They should be asking how you and the child are that day and if you have any information we may need for the day.

During the day:

- You will receive updates via our ProCare App to let you know how the day is going, what your child ate, when they napped, and any special activities they are doing.
- You can send us a message through this app as well if you have any questions.

At Pick-up:

- You should be greeted with a smile from each teacher you see.
- Your child's teacher will let you know how your child's day went, what they did, what they learned, and anything they may need; all positives.
- This is also a time for you or your child's teacher to touch on any concerns.

Parent-teacher Conferences will be held in November and May of each year to discuss:

- Your child's development and look over some recent work/activities
- Any issues, delays, needs for referrals
- Set some goals and ways to follow progress

Email or Newsletters:

- Lesson plans
- Class updates
- Center updates

In the classroom parent communication includes:

- Bulletin Boards featuring lesson plans, daily schedules, newsletter, etc.
- ProCare Messaging
- Notes on your child's cubby

Tuition Rates

There is a one time registration fee of \$100 due prior to a child's first day.

Weekly tuition is as follows:

\$145/week for Full day care, for all ages

\$75/week for Afterschool Care, when school is in session

We do have a daily rate of \$35/day, this is used at the directors discretion

Tuition is due by 6pm on Friday to cover the current week.

We request that tuition be paid through our Procare Program, but we also accept cash, personal check, certified check, or money order.

Overtime Fee

As a result of late pickup, an overtime fee will be assessed at a rate of \$1.00 per minute and is due with the current week's tuition payment. **Repeated late pickups can result in program dismissal.**

Return Check Fee

A return check fee of \$30.00 will be assessed to your tuition for checks returned due to non-sufficient funds (NSF) or any other delinquent account issue. Return Check Fee must be paid via our Procure App, or with cash/money order to make your account current. If two checks are returned in one year's time, check payments will no longer be accepted for your account.

Summer Holding Fee

Enrolled children who will not be attending the Summer Session are required to pay a holding fee (registration fee plus one week's tuition). The holding fee guarantees a space for the child during the Fall Session. Please notify the Director before the end of April if your child will not be attending the Summer Session. This fee is only for parents who are out for the summer.

Late Payment Fee

If tuition is not received by Monday morning, there will be a \$15 late fee added to your account. If your account is not paid in full by Tuesday, there will be another \$5 fee added. This will continue each day for one week. If your account is more than 7 days past due, then your child will be unable to attend until the full balance is paid.

Vacation

Children are allowed a one week vacation credit during the calendar year. The request must be made no later than two weeks prior to the vacation. There will be no partial week credit or carry over to the next year. We are closed one week in December and one week in July. These are the times allotted for vacation and there is no charge.

Bad Weather Closings

- You will be sent a procure message, text message and/or email message of closing for events that are weather related.
- Parents may also be informed through local media and postings on our Facebook page.
- While every attempt is made to keep the Center open, the safety of our children, their families, and our staff is our primary concern and will dictate delayed openings and/or closures. Your understanding in this matter is most appreciated. **There are no discounts for weather closings as we have no control over the weather and our expenses do not change.**

Curriculum

We practice a play-based curriculum. A planned, prepared environment is the structure for the learning experience that is available to the children. A balance of child-initiated and teacher-directed activities is provided to characterize the "learning through play" philosophy.

This expands children's cognitive, social and physical growth through a unique program that provides a comprehensive, carefully planned curriculum that is developed age appropriately. Exciting thematic units are planned with many varied experiences to enhance a child's motor, social, emotional, language and literacy skills as well as musical abilities. Our goals stress the individuality of each child in order to shape the social, intellectual and psychological wellbeing of

the child. We feel this is important to the developmental stages of all children. We hope to contribute to the achievements that will enable the children to grow into independent thinkers and responsible adults.

Displaying Children's Work

- Describe activity and why we did it – Includes the name of the child, name of creation, date
- Allow children to create art, not just crafts or closed-ended activities
- Post photos of the children's activities and play so that they can remember what they did. This enables parents to discuss it with them.
- Have spaces for children to display work of their own choice
- Display children's work at child eye-level

Displaying Information for Parents

- Designate places for specific information
- DSS ratios must be displayed in every classroom
- Menu must be posted by kitchen
- Evacuation route and procedures must be posted by exit
- Emergency phone numbers should be posted by phones

Photographs and Recordings

All children may be photographed or recorded to develop videos, growth and development portfolios of the child, published material, or news releases, with the understanding that a family's privacy will be respected and honored with prior photo approval of the parents. Teachers and students may also photograph or record children for the purpose of course assignments or for educational or scholarly purposes. Identifiable photographs will not be used on the Internet without prior specific approval from the parents.

Discharge of Enrolled Children

Termination can occur to any child if a parent fails to provide required enrollment forms, is consistently absent, is non-compliant with policies and procedures, or failure to pay fees or weekly rates.

All fees must be paid prior to the child's last day. Those with unpaid balances will not be allowed to re-enroll and can be taken to small claims court.

ABC Code of Ethics

As an ABC Quality child care provider we are committed to their code of ethics that guides the performance, conduct, and behavior of its participants including child care facilities, owners, directors, and teachers. This code offers guidance for responsible behavior and will ensure the highest level of professionalism in the operation and activities of ABC Quality providers. ABC Quality participants will adhere to this code of ethics and relevant program standards and will be held accountable for their actions.

1. Participants will not harm children and will not participate in practices that are emotionally or physically harmful, disrespectful, degrading, dangerous, exploitative, or intimidating to children.
2. Participants will respect colleagues in early child care and education and support them in maintaining the ABC Quality Code of Ethics.
3. Participants will promote safe and healthy working conditions and policies that foster respect, cooperation, collaboration, competence, well-being, confidentiality, and self-esteem in staff members.
4. Participants will not participate in practices that are in violation of laws and regulations protecting children in child care programs.
5. Participants will demonstrate respect and professional courtesy in their relationships with other ABC Quality participants and the public.
6. Participants will not discriminate against children or families on the basis of sex, race, national origin, religious beliefs, medical condition, disability, or the marital status/family structure, sexual orientation or religious beliefs of their families.

Injury/Accidents

In the event of a minor accident at Homestead Academy, first aid measures will be taken and an Accident Report Form will be completed. The original Accident Report will be given to the parent, and a copy will be placed on file in the child's folder. Minor scrapes and bruises are treated with tender loving care. The Center does not call parents for every minor injury. Parents will be called in the case of accidents that may need a doctor's attention. The Center will always call parents if their children experience one of the following:

- Injury to the head or face
- Injury that causes a great amount of bleeding
- The child has come in contact with the blood of another child.
- The child has an open wound that has been exposed to the blood/saliva of another child
- Injury or incident that upsets the child to the point of inconsolability

- In the event of a serious accident or emergency, the child will be taken to the hospital by ambulance. Every effort will be made to contact parents immediately. If parents cannot be reached, the Center will attempt to reach the emergency contacts and then the physician listed on the Enrollment Information Form. In the event the child's physician cannot be reached, an assigned member of the staff will stay with the child and secure needed medical treatment.

Medications/Treatment Policy

The Center requires written authorization to administer any medication or medical treatment. Medication Forms are Available from your child's teacher. Completed forms are kept in a medication log. If a child requires prescription medication, parents will complete the Medication Form requesting and authorizing administration of the medication and specifying the dosage and times of day the medication is to be administered. An administrator will check the name and date of the prescriptions to be sure the medication is prescribed for this specific child and is current. The prescription label or doctor's note should also indicate the nature of the condition being treated. Written, signed and dated parental consent is required prior to the administration of any prescription. The same is required of over the counter medications.

- The medicine must be in its original container. All medications shall be used only for the child for whom the medication is labeled.
- Medications shall not be given in excess of the recommended dose.
- Medication must be locked in our medicine cabinet or placed in a lock box in our refrigerator: medicine cannot be left in a child's cubbies/bookbags.
- We do not give non-prescription medications such as tylenol without a doctor's note.
- Expired medication will not be used and will be returned to the parent for disposal.

Medication Log

- For each medication that is administered by a staff person, a log shall be kept including the child's name, the name of medication, dosage, date, time and name of person administering the medication.
- This information shall be logged immediately following the administration of the medication and a copy provided to the child's parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Any errors in administration of medication will be reported immediately to the family and to the Department of Social Services (DSS).
- Parents may also come to the Center to personally administer medications to their children. The Center will not be responsible for medications administered by parents.
- To meet DHEC's standards (Department of Health and Environmental Control) if a child has an Epi-Pen, it should be stored in a First Aid Kit that is readily accessible in the event of an emergency. Staff must be trained to administer emergency medication. Parents should complete an Emergency Consent Form to allow the staff to administer an Epi-Pen with doctor signed instructions.

Health and Illness Policies

For the health and safety of everyone, children who are ill may not attend the center. If your child becomes ill while at the center, you will be notified and required to pick your child up immediately and make other arrangements for child care until your child is well. You are required to fill out an Emergency form to include names of individuals who can care for your child if we are unable to get in touch with you. It is your responsibility to keep this form up to date and notify us of any changes.

****If you arrive with an ill child, your child will be denied care at our center and you will need to make other arrangements. As a courtesy please send us a message via ProCare, if your child will be absent due to illness. This helps teachers plan for the day.**

We are committed to safeguarding the health of all the children attending so please follow these guidelines when determining if your child is considered ill and/or unable to attend: The Center requires that a child, teacher, or others with the following conditions be excluded from the Center until his/her recovery has reached a stage conducive to inclusion in regular Center activities. DHEC regulations supersede the regulations set by the Center and the handbook will be updated as needed.

The following illnesses or conditions shall result in exclusion from the Center:

- Fever of 100.4° F or above. Children must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication; this includes ear infections.
- Diarrhea that is uncontrolled, more than 2 cases where it is unable to be contained in the diaper or child is unable to make it to the toilet. The child may return to the center 24 hours after the symptoms stop and they can resume normal daily activities.
- Vomiting –defined as two or more episodes of vomiting in the previous 24 hours. The child should remain home until vomiting resolves or a physician determines it to be non-communicable and the child is not in danger of dehydration. The child may return to the center 24 hours after the vomiting stops and they can resume normal daily activities.
- Chicken Pox – Exclude until all lesions have dried and crusted and no new lesions have appeared for 24 hours. May return with a doctor's note and when feeling well enough for routine activities.
- Hand Foot Mouth disease (Coxsackievirus) - The child must have a doctor's note to return and be able to resume normal daily activities.
- Head lice – The child may return 24 hours after treatment is begun and nits are no longer present and a statement must be presented that includes; type of treatment given, when given, and how often.
- Impetigo or Staphylococcus (Staph) – The child may return 24 hours after treatment is begun.
- Pink eye (purulent conjunctivitis) – The child may return with a doctor's note.
- Rash with fever or behavior change – until a physician determines that it is not a communicable disease.
- Ringworm or Pinworm – The child may return 24 hours after treatment is begun.
- Scabies – The child may return 24 hours after one treatment with a doctor's note.
- Streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat) – Child may return to the center 24 hours after initial treatment and a doctor's note.
- Viral or bacterial infections – until treated and released by a physician..
- Symptoms of possible severe illness, such as unusual lethargy, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, or other unusual signs – until medical evaluation indicates inclusion.

The Director, in consultation with the child's teaching team, will determine if a child is exhibiting any of the above illnesses or symptoms. If it is decided your child should be sent home, parents will be asked to pick their child up promptly. A reasonable amount of time (no more than 60 minutes) will be allowed for parents' arrival. If the parents of an ill child cannot be reached or do not respond to the Center's request to pick up their child, the emergency contact identified on the child's Enrollment Form will be asked to come pick up the child instead. If your child is sent home with an Exclusion for Illness Form, its terms are strictly enforced. It is very important that all communicable illnesses be reported to the Center. A statement from a physician identifying the type of illness and the date when the child may return to school may be required for contagious illnesses. Contagious illnesses will be reported to DSS and/or DHEC if there are concerns that the illness is occurring in epidemic proportions. The goal of the Center is to prevent the spread of illness. Parental cooperation is essential in this effort.

Parental Access Policy

This policy is not meant to be a hindrance to you or your family, but rather a security measure to assure the safety of all children during drop offs, pick ups, and visits.

Homestead Academy ensures that parents/guardians have access to their children during the hours the program is in operation, including all locations within the facility, both indoors, outdoors, and anywhere children are present.

- Drop off of children
 - Children must be signed in on the computer located right inside the front door and then escorted to the classroom. The teacher will then sign them into the classroom on their roster.
 - Children should arrive ready for the day and wearing appropriate clothes and shoes.
 - All children must be signed into their classrooms by 9am. This allows us to ensure we have the staff needed for the day.
- Pick up of children

- Children must be signed out using the computer located right inside the front door.
- Anyone picking up a child should have an ID ready at pick up so staff can check the child's pick up list if they do not recognize you as an approved pick up person.
- If a new pick up person needs to be added to your child's list, a written note must be received by the director at least one day in advance to the pick up event.
- Your child must be signed up before 6pm or fees will apply. A continuance of last pick ups could result in discharge from our program.
- If a child is left at the center more than thirty minutes after closing time, we have the authority to call local child protective services and release the child into their care.
- Family code word(s)
 - Each family will add a code word to their registration papers to be used in an emergency
 - For example, we've had to relocate children due to a disaster and emergency personnel are releasing the children or the parent/guardian/all pick up persons listed on a child's paperwork are unavailable for pick up.
- Custody and court orders
 - In the event of any legal matters regarding the custody of your child, the center must have copies of the court documents for custodial arrangements such as billing and visitations. This includes orders for foster children and plans for visitation pickups. For DSS State pickup State ID is required for release.
 - The center cannot withhold a child from a parent/guardian that is listed on their paperwork unless we have court orders.
 - The center must provide childcare information to the child's parent/guardian listed on their paperwork unless we have court orders.
- Parent access to children while in the center
 - Parents' Right to Free and Full Access to their child during child care hours at Homestead Academy shall permit the parent/guardian of a child free and full access to his or her child without prior notice unless there is a court order limiting parental access.
 - Your free access must not disrupt instructional activities or classroom routines. Because we must think of your child and all the children in the classroom, repetitive disruptions will require us to impose limitations on access on a case by case basis.
- Denying the release of children
 - If the pick up person appears to be under the influence of drugs/alcohol they will not be allowed to take the child. Another parent/guardian/approved pick up person will have to come collect the child.
 - If the pick up person does not have the appropriate child safety seat they will not be allowed to take the child. Another parent/guardian/approved pick up person will have to come collect the child.

A sex offender who has been convicted of a sex offense against a minor (even if the sex offender is the parent, guardian or custodian) who is required to register with the SC sex offender registry:

- Shall not operate, manage, be employed by, or act as a contractor or volunteer at the child care center.
- Shall not be on the property of the child care center

Child Care Emergency Plan

South Carolina Department of Social Services regulations require child care facilities to have a plan in place that addresses emergency medical situations and evacuation in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Contact for the program:

DSS Child Care Licensing phone numbers Region 1 (Upstate) 1-800-556-7445

EMERGENCY RESPONSE LINE: 1-888-825-7174

DISASTER RESPONSE EMAIL: childcare.disaster.response@dss.sc.gov

A) Shelter in Place: In the event that an emergency occurs at Homestead Academy and we have to shelter in place due to events such as a tornado, chemical spill, etc. the children will be kept at the facility, but will be moved to Oakway Community Center gym (secure on-site location). The children will remain here under the care and supervision of our childcare staff until dangerous conditions subside. If children are exposed to toxic fumes or

injured during the emergency, they will be transported to the nearest hospital by EMS where they will be examined by a health care professional and the parents/guardians will be contacted.

B) Off-site evacuation: In the event that an emergency occurs at Homestead Academy and an “off site evacuation” is necessary due to events such as fire, flash flood, etc. the children will be relocated to Oakway Fire Department. The children will remain at the alternate site under the care and supervision of our childcare staff while parents/guardians are contacted. When Parents/Guardians are contacted, they will be made aware of Situation and need to make arrangements for the pick up. If children are exposed to toxic fumes or injured during the emergency or the evacuation, they will be transported to the nearest hospital by EMS where they will be examined by a health care professionals and the parents/guardians will be contacted.

C) Major Disasters or emergencies: In the event that a major disaster or emergency occurs such as major environmental hazards, earthquakes, hurricanes, etc. and/or a mandatory evacuation is ordered, children will be transported to a Red Cross designated mass shelter by West-Oak High School. The children will remain at the Red Cross shelter under the care and supervision of our childcare staff while parents/guardians are contacted. When parents/guardians are contacted, they will be made aware of the situation to make arrangements for pick up their child. If children are injured during the emergency or evacuation, they will be transported to the nearest hospital by EMS where they will be examined by a health care professional and the parents/guardians will be contacted.

D) Radiological Evacuations: (to be completed by providers located within a 10 mile radius of a nuclear power plant in the following counties: Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell, Chesterfield, Darlington, Fairfield, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Oconee, Pickens, Richland, and York) If a mandatory evacuation is ordered because of an emergency at a power plant, children will be transported to West-Oak High School by SDOC bus. Children will then be transported to a Red Cross designated mass shelter. The children will remain at the evacuation location under the care and supervision of our childcare staff while parents/guardians are contacted. When parents/guardians are contacted they will be made aware of the situation and asked to make arrangements for the pick up of their child. If children are injured during the emergency or evacuation, they will be transported to an area hospital as determined by local emergency management officials where they will be examined by a health care professional and the parents/guardians will be contacted.

E) Intruder: In the event of an intruder in the building or suspicions of an intruder, all children will be moved away from doors/windows and hidden from site. Police will be called immediately and families will be contacted as soon as it's safe to do so. Our entrance/exit doors and classroom doors are always locked and will remain locked until there is an all clear from police.

Infant/Toddler Care

What to Bring in the Infant Room

- Parents are responsible to provide diapers and wipes.
- If you would like for us to use powder, lotion, ointment, teething medication, etc. you will need to supply these items as well, and you will need to sign a permission form.
- All bottles must be premixed, have a top, be labeled with your child's name and the current day's date, and then be placed in the refrigerator. No bottles can be left overnight.
- Every child must have at least 2 extra changes of clothes.
- Pacifiers are welcome but we do not allow any kind of pacifier clips or stuffed animal attachments.
- If your child is eating cereal and food you must provide this for them daily. If your child is brought in without food for the day you will be required to bring some to the center or pick your child up. No refrigerated food can be left overnight.

Infant Room Notes

- Children will be feed according to individual needs
- Children will sleep according to individual needs
- Children are diapered and cleaned up according to individual needs (No child will go more than 2 hour without being checked for this need.)

- Schedule will be adjusted to meet needs of the children
- Handwashing will be at arrival, before and after feeding, after diapering, when in contact with messy play items, body fluids, or other times needed.

What to Bring in the Toddler Rooms

- Parents are responsible to provide diapers/pull ups and wipes.
- If you would like for us to use powder, lotion, ointment, etc. you will need to supply these items as well, and you will need to sign a permission form.
- Every child must have at least 2 extra changes of clothes, more if we are potty training.
- A blanket for nap time.

Diapering Procedures(Infants and Toddlers)

Children's diapers are changed at least every 2 hours but more frequently if needed. Parents are to supply diapers, wipes, and any creams needed. All staff are trained on the proper diaper changing procedures given to us by the Centers of Disease Control and prevention. This procedure is as follows:

1. Prepare - Bring your needed supplies (Clean diaper, wipes, diaper cream, gloves, plastic bag, extra clothes)
2. Clean Child - Place the child on the changing table, put on gloves, and unfasten the diaper. Clean the child with disposable wipes, always wiping front to back. Securely bag any soiled clothing.
3. Remove Trash - Place used wipes in soiled diaper and discard in a covered trash can. Remove and discard gloves as well.
4. Replace Diaper - Slide a clean diaper under the child, apply diaper cream with a freshly gloved finger (if needed), then fasten the diaper and dress the child.
5. Wash Child's Hands - Use soap and water to wash the child's hands thoroughly and then help them return to their activity.
6. Clean up - Wipe up any visible soil on the changing surface with a baby wipe. Then clean the entire surface with disinfectant.
7. Wash your hands - Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.

Potty Training Readiness

We support children learning to use the potty as they are interested and developmentally ready. We do not require that children complete potty training by any particular age, and it is not a necessary requirement to move into a new classroom. It is important that teachers and parents work in partnership to make the potty training a relaxed process where children feel supported and encouraged. The following are some indicators that a child might be ready to potty train:

1. Child is 18-24 months old
2. Child's diaper is dry for two hours at a time
3. Child knows or lets us know if he or she is wet or has a BM
4. Child indicates that he or she is uncomfortable in a soiled diaper
5. Can undress enough to sit on the potty
6. Follows simple directions and answer yes or no questions
7. Imitates others

This is a very significant time in a child's (and parents!) life. Please know that the staff is committed to working with you, as parents/legal guardians, in the decision to begin toilet training. Remember, we will assist you in training your child. We ask that during this transitional phase of your child's life that you provide extra clothing to be stored in your child's cubby in the event of accidents. Please be sure to share with your child's teacher anything that can help in the toilet training process such as signs of readiness, techniques that are working (or NOT working!), etc. Also, please check that there is an ample supply of your child's diapering supplies available. To ensure that your child is dry and comfortable throughout the day, should your child run out of diapering supplies, you will be contacted to bring in more or to pick up your child.

Preschool Program

What to Bring

- Two changes of weather appropriate clothes, more if we are potty training
- A blanket for nap time

Preschool Notes

- Children follow a predictable daily routine that includes indoor and outdoor play
- Each room has weekly lesson plans based on the children's developmental needs
- We believe that children learn best through organized play, where our teachers are involved in the activities and they help create learning moments throughout the day
- We do get messy, please send your child in clothes that you don't mind getting dirty

Preschool Goals

- **To provide each child with a daily routine that is preparing them for school**
- **To provide them with curriculum that is play based and built on individual needs**
- **To support the full child's growth; social/emotional, cognitive, fine motor, gross motor, and creativity**

ABC Mandated Abuse and Neglect Reporting Policy

South Carolina Law requires childcare workers to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect. The person that believes that a child has been harmed is at significant risk of being harmed should call the local DSS office [(864) 224-6576 Anderson County Child and Adult Protective Services or After Hours Reporting: (864) 224-6576 Main or (864) 224-6576 Child and Adult Protective Services] or where the child resides. Anderson County DSS Child and Adult Protective Services staff will assist the person to make the report and will assess the information to determine if it meets screening criteria for an investigation. Reports can also be made to local law enforcement officers who will then coordinate with local DSS Child and Adult Protective Services. Staff are required to follow program procedures for reporting child abuse and neglect. All staff go through state required background checks before being allowed to work with children.

Staff Will

- Complete child abuse form
- Staff will notify the director and give them a copy of the form
- Staff will call in the observed report
- Staff will report to the director the instructions from DSS

Discipline and Maltreatment Policy

Homestead Academy prohibits the use of corporal punishment and maltreatment of children by staff regardless of the type of relationship the employee has to the child. The program provides employees with behavioral strategies and support through training and technical assistance that promotes positive guidance practices. Staff, read, agree, and implement the policy, which is signed annually.

DSS regulations defines discipline as ---"...training that develops self-control, character, and social competence..." Age appropriate limits and rules are those necessary to safeguard children and premises. These limits and rules are explained on each child's level of understanding. Acknowledging that all children are uniquely different and mature at different levels, it is necessary that each parent cooperate with the center in establishing an appropriate disciplinary action.

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ALLOWED.

Praise and positive reinforcement are effective methods of behavior management of children. When children receive positive, nonviolent, and understanding interactions from adults and others, they develop good self-concepts, problem solving abilities, and self-discipline. Based on this belief, we use a positive approach to discipline and practices the following discipline and behavior management techniques.

WE DO

- Communicate to children using positive statements.
- Communicate with children on their level.
- Talk with children in a calm, quiet manner.
- Explain unacceptable behavior to children.
- Give attention to children for positive behavior.
- Praise and encourage the children.
- Reason with and set limits for the children.
- Apply rules consistently.
- Model appropriate behavior.
- Set up the classroom environment to prevent problems.
- Provide alternatives and redirect children to acceptable activity.
- Give children opportunities to make choices and solve problems.
- Help children talk out problems and think of solutions.
- Listen to children and respect the children's needs, desires and feelings.
- Provide appropriate words to help solve conflicts.
- Use storybooks and discussion to work through common conflicts.

WE DO NOT

- Inflict corporal punishment in any manner upon a child. (Corporal punishment is defined as the use of physical force to the body as a discipline measure. Physical force to the body includes, but is not limited to, spanking, hitting, shaking, biting, pinching, pushing, pulling, or slapping.)
- Use any strategy that hurts, shames, or belittles a child.
- Use any strategy that threatens, intimidates, or forces a child.
- Use food as a form of reward or punishment.
- Use or withhold physical activity as a punishment.
- Shame or punish a child if a bathroom accident occurs.
- Embarrass any child in front of others.
- Compare children.
- Place children in a locked and/or dark room.
- Leave any child alone, unattended or without supervision.
- Allow discipline of a child by other children.
- Criticize, make fun of, or otherwise belittle a child's parents, families, or ethnic groups

Conferences will be scheduled with parents if particular disciplinary problems occur. If a child's behavior consistently endangers the safety of the children around him/her, then the Director has the right, after meeting with the parents and documenting behavior problems and interventions, to terminate child care services for that particular child.

We strive to offer quality developmentally appropriate educational programs to children. One of the main components to success is our partnering with parents to help their child grow within our center and at home. We also recognize that, "one size does not fit all", meaning our childcare environment although inclusive may not meet the expectations you envision for your child's program. Therefore the following policies were developed.

Suspension and Expulsion Policy

We want you to know we will do everything possible to work with the family of the child(ren) in order to prevent suspension and/or expulsion. Our program uses the Pyramid Model for behavioral supports

(<http://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/>)

1. Suspension or Expulsion may occur if the child is at risk of causing serious injury to other children or himself/herself and methods in the behavioral plan have not worked.
2. Suspension or Expulsion may occur if Parent/Guardian threatens physical or intimidating actions towards staff members or others
3. Suspension or Expulsion may occur if Parent/Guardian exhibits verbal abuse to staff in front of enrolled children

Proactive Actions That Can Be Taken in Order to Prevent Expulsion

- A. Staff will try to redirect child from negative behavior
- B. Staff will reassess classroom environment, appropriateness of activities, supervision
- C. Staff will always use positive methods and language when disciplining children.
(<http://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/Pyramid/pbs/index.html>)
- D. Staff will praise appropriate behaviors
- E. Staff will consistently apply consequences for rules
- F. Child will be given verbal warnings
- G. Child will be given time to regain control (Safe spot and quiet areas of the room are available)
- H. Child's disruptive behavior will be documented and maintained in confidentiality (for use in development of behavioral plan with parent and/or mental health services)
- I. Parent/ Guardian will be notified verbally or in writing when needed and parent meetings will occur to help with actions to support the child's needs for services and support.
- J. Parent/Guardian will be given written copies of the disruptive behaviors that might lead to expulsion
- K. The Director, classroom staff and parent/guardian will have a conference to discuss how to promote positive behaviors and resources and tools will be provided in development of a behavioral plan to support social emotional development for all children.
- L. The parent/guardian will be given literature or other resources regarding methods of improving behavior
- M. Social and Emotional Development Training will be provided for staff and parent/guardian at least one time a year.
- N. Recommendation of evaluation by professional consultation on premises or off premises referrals
- O. Recommendation of evaluation by SC Inclusion local school district child study team or BabyNet

If after the remedial actions above have not worked, the child's parent/guardian will be advised verbally and in writing about the child's or parent/guardian's behavior warranting actions. An expulsion action is meant to be a period of time so that the parent/guardian may work on the child's behavior or come to an agreement with the center.

The parent/guardian will be given a specific expulsion date that allows the parent/guardian sufficient time to seek alternate child care (approximately one to two weeks' notice depending on risk to other children's welfare or safety). Failure of the child or parent/guardian to satisfy the terms of the plan may result in permanent expulsion from the center.

Note: If, at any point, there is an indication/suspicion that a child may have special needs, we will inform the child's family and make contact with Baby Net for assessment and assistance.

Transition Policy

Transition for all children occurs one time a year. The process generally begins the day after the child's birthday. However this may be different for each child due to progression to the next age group may be adjusted based on development or other needs of the individual child.

Children are slowly integrated into the next age group over a week-long process.

- Day 1: Child will spend an hour in the new class during the morning
- Day 2: Child will spend an hour in the new class during the afternoon
- Day 3: Child will spend the morning and nap/quiet time in their new room
- Day 4: Child will spend the morning, nap/quiet time, and an hour in the afternoon in their new room
- Day 5 Child will be dropped of in their new room and stay the full day

Children With IEP or Other Plans

For families who are receiving early intervention services for their child with differing abilities, at least six months before the child turns three, the BabyNet Service Coordinator will assist the family in planning a move to the next service provider or agency serving the child. This can change where and how services are provided. In early intervention, this change is called transition. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires a written plan for this transition. A transition plan meeting must take place at least 90 days before the child turns three. The transition meeting will identify special education or community-based services the child may need. Your BabyNet Service Coordinator will ask you to sign a permission form so the next agency or service provider can be contacted to

plan for transition. A meeting between the family, the BabyNet Service Coordinator, service provider(s), and the local school district will be set up. A team, including school district personnel and the parent(s), will determine if the child is eligible for preschool special education services. They will discuss the results of their assessments with the family and give them information about their rights. If the child is eligible, the services will be provided through an Individual Education Program (IEP). The BabyNet Service Coordinator will assist the family in planning a move to other possible services if the child is not eligible for special education preschool services.

Tips For the Transition Meeting

- Gather as much information as possible about the proposed change.
- Ask about possible program options or choices.
- Ask what training and support the new program offers families.
- Visit the new program before the change.
- Ask for written materials and learn the procedures for entering and participating in the new program.
- Provide as much information about the child as possible to the new program.
- Remember, parents are equal members of their child's team

Inclusive Practices Policy

Homestead Academy welcomes all children and is committed to providing developmentally appropriate early learning and development experiences to support the full access and participation of each child. We believe that each child is unique and will work with families, professionals, involved with the child to provide the support every child needs to reach his/her full potential.

Homestead Academy uses developmentally appropriate practices and consider the unique needs of all children when developing lesson plans. Staff activity plan and make needed adaptations, modification or adjustments to meet the needs of every child. All schedules, routines, and activities are flexible. Staff will work with physicians, therapists, and inclusion professionals to develop strategies for classroom routines, lesson plans and activities.

Our Staff Will

- Know developmental milestones, observe, and take notes on children enrolled in the classroom.
- One time a year a child will receive a hearing, vision, and developmental assessments/checklist.
- Staff will attend training each year in growth and development
- Staff will maintain a portfolio of children in the classroom and observe children's development.
- In January and August staff will complete a milestone checklist and the parent will also complete the checklist.
- There will be a parent/teacher conference to plan for the needs of the children enrolled and IEP in August and January. This meeting will include the Director, staff working with child and parents, also services if requested.
- IEP and Lesson Plans will include adaptations and learning goals to help children with varying abilities.
- Services for children will occur in the classroom. When the service asks for space it will be available for them. It is our goal to help the child and meet the child's needs for any and all services.
- Family meetings will be arranged for referrals to BabyNet or Child Find/ or other services.
- See director for resource list and or brochures for parents and or staff.
- Director will support the staff in meeting the needs of all children.

- ★ If you would like more information on inclusive practices visit www.scinclusion.org.
- ★ If you would like more information on BabyNet call (877) 621- 0865
- ★ If you would like more information about Family Connection call (800) 578-8750

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher conferences are 15-30 minutes in length and are an important part of our communication with families. Conferences are scheduled during the morning, afternoon and evening to accommodate various family schedules. Conference sign-up sheets will be posted on the outside of your child's classroom. If, for any reason, you would like to speak formally to your child's teacher prior to this scheduled conference, please do not hesitate to

request a conference with the teacher directly or call the school office and we will gladly arrange a time for you and the teacher to meet.

Parent and Child Confidentiality

As teachers we are required to respect the confidentiality of each parent and child. Therefore we are not permitted to give names to parents of other children who are sick, who bites or injures another child, etc. We are also required to keep events regarding children to ourselves and are not permitted to share any information regarding any child or parent to others. This is due to the sensitive nature of information that you will know as a teacher of young children, it is imperative that you keep sensitive information confidential. Do not discuss children's developmental needs, health and medical information, or family information in public places such as the lounge or hallway. Others that do not have a need to know could hear such information.

Also, strive to be supportive of the center's efforts by avoiding negative or malicious discussions about center issues. Together we can achieve great early care and education. Stay positive and focused on the early childhood needs of the children in your care.

Children's records are open only to the particular child's teacher, the director(s) or director designee, authorized employees of the Department of Social Services and the child's parent or legal guardian. Children's files will be kept locked in the front desk area.

Staff/personnel records are open only to that staff member, the director(s) or director designee, and authorized employees of the Department of Social Services. Staff files will be kept locked up in the director's office.

Hand Washing Policy

Hand washing is the single most important means of preventing the spread of infection and germs. Staff hands must be washed with soap and warm water and staff must ensure that children's faces and hands are clean. Hands must be washed even if gloves are worn.

When To Wash Hands

- At a minimum all STAFF hands shall be washed:
 - Upon arrival at the center
 - Before preparing or serving food
 - Before assisting a child with eating
 - Before and after toileting
 - After assisting a child with toileting or diapering
 - After assisting child with wiping nose
 - After contact with body fluids
 - After cleaning
 - After using cleaning materials
 - After contact with animals
 - After administering medication
- At a minimum all CHILDREN hands shall be washed:
 - Before eating a meal or snack
 - After toileting and diapering
 - After contact with body fluids

Child Care Nutrition Policy

Policy Statement

Good nutrition is vital to children's overall development and well-being. In an effort to provide the best possible nutrition environment for the children, our facility has developed the following child care nutrition policies to encourage the development of good eating habits that will last a lifetime.

Child Care Nutrition

Homestead Academy follows the child care nutrition guidelines recommended by the USDA CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program) for all the foods we serve. To provide a healthy and balanced diet that includes fruits, vegetables, and whole grains and limits foods and beverages that are high in sugar, and/or fat, our nutrition policy includes the following:

Fruits and Vegetable

- We serve fruit at least 2 times a day
- We offer a vegetable other than white potatoes at least once a day

Grains

- We serve whole grain foods at least once a day

Beverages

- We limit juice intake to once per day in a serving size specified for the child's age group
- When served, the juice is 100% fruit juice
- We do not serve sugar sweetened beverages
- We serve only skim or 1% milk to children age 2 years and older

Fats and Sugars

- High fat meats, such as bologna, bacon, and sausage, are served no more than two times per week
- Fried or pre-fried vegetables, including potatoes, are served no more than once per week
- We limit sweet food items to no more than two times per week

Role of Staff in Nutrition Education

- Staff provide opportunities for children to learn about nutrition 1 time per week or more
- Staff act as role models for healthy eating in front of the children

Meal and snack times are planned so that no child will go more than four hours without being offered food. We provide a variety of nutritionally balanced, high quality foods each day so please do not send your child with outside food and drinks.

Weekly Menus

Our weekly menus are carefully planned to follow child care nutrition guidelines at every meal. Each menu is designed to provide a wide variety of nutritious foods that are culturally diverse and seasonally appropriate. We also like to introduce new and different foods and include children's favorite recipes in our menu planning. Menus are rotated on a monthly basis to provide the children with a balance of variety and familiarity. Menus are adapted to incorporate local and fresh in-season produce when available.

Nutrition and Punishment

Staff will never use food as a reward or as a punishment.

Celebrations

From birthday parties to holidays there are many opportunities for celebrations in our child care center. We will celebrate each child on their birthday. If you would like to recognize your child's birthday, we request that you not send in treats or goody bags but instead send a birthday book or fun activity we can do. For holiday celebrations, a sign-up sheet with specific foods and beverages will be placed on the classroom door.

Professional Development

Annual nutrition training is required to ensure that all staff understand the important role nutrition plays in the overall well-being of children.

Child Care Physical Activity Policy

Policy Statement

We recognize the importance of physical activity for young children. Implementation of appropriate physical activity practices supports the health and development of children in care, as well as assisting in establishing positive lifestyle habits for the future.

Physical Activity in Child Care

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that children in care are supported and encouraged to engage in active play, develop fundamental movement skills and to have limited screen time. Our center encourages all children to participate in a variety of daily physical activity opportunities that are appropriate for their age, that are fun and that offer variety. In order to promote physical activity and provide all children with numerous opportunities for physical activity throughout the day Homestead Academy will:

Daily Outdoor Play

- Encourage a least restrictive, safe environment for infants and toddlers always.
- Provide a designated safe outdoor area for infants (ages 0-12 months) for daily outdoor play.
- Provide toddlers (ages 1 through 2-year old's) with at least 60-90 minutes of daily outdoor active play opportunities across 2 or 3 separate occasions.
- Provide preschoolers and school age children (ages 3 through 12-year old's) with at least 90-120 minutes of daily outdoor active play opportunities across 2 or 3 separate occasions.
- Increase indoor active play time so the total amount of active play time remains the same, if weather limits outdoor time.
- Provide a variety of play materials (both indoors and outdoors) that promote physical activity.

Role of Staff in Physical Activity

- Will encourage children to be physically active indoors and outdoors at appropriate times.
- Will provide 5-10 minutes of planned physical activities at least 2 times daily for children age 3 and older.

Screen Time Limitations

- Not permit screen time (e.g., television, movies, video games and computers) for infants and children two years and younger.

Physical Activity and Punishment

Staff members do not withhold opportunities for physical activity (e.g., not being permitted to play with the rest of the class or being kept from play time), except when a child's behavior is dangerous to himself or others. Staff members never use physical activity or exercise as punishment, e.g., doing push-ups or running laps. Play time or other opportunities for physical activity are never withheld to enforce the completion of learning activities or academic work. Our center uses appropriate alternate strategies as consequences for negative or undesirable behaviors.

Appropriate Dress for Physical Activity

We have a Ready to Play Policy! Please bring your child ready to play and have fun each day. Your child will participate in both indoor play and outdoor play. Therefore, play clothes and shoes which can get dirty and allow for free and safe movement are most appropriate. We expect parents to provide children with appropriate clothing for safe and active outdoor play during all seasons.

For safety, children cannot wear open-toe shoes, sandals or flip-flops. In winter, provide a warm jacket, snowsuit, hat, mittens and boots. In spring and fall, provide a jacket or sweater, and boots and rain jacket on rainy days. In summer, provide light clothing, swimsuit, towel, hat and sunscreen. Please label all outer garments with your child's name! It is our expectation that children will go outside EVERYDAY! "Weather permitting" means no thunder, lightning, or inclement weather. Inclement weather is defined by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, and National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (2010) as a wind chill factor at or below 20 degrees Fahrenheit or at or above a heat index of 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

If outdoor play is decreased due to weather, indoor gross motor play is increased so the total amount of active play remains the same.

If you feel your child is too sick to go outside, then he/she is too sick to be at the child care center. We request that you keep him/her at home until they are well enough to go outside.

Program Evaluations

Homestead Academy strives to provide high quality childcare and is always looking for ways to improve. To help us in this process we will have yearly program evaluations. We will utilize family and staff satisfaction surveys and classroom observations to assess the programs strengths and weaknesses. This information will then be used to form new program goals and an action plan to achieve those goals, a continuous improvement plan. An example of program qualities we look at include; parent/staff satisfaction, staff qualifications, student successes, curriculum implantation, daily operations/policies, etc.

Professional Development and Parent Information

Annual training on promotion of children's movement and physical activity is required for all staff one time a year. We also provide parents physical activity information from SHAPE America, Team Nutrition

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/team-nutrition>, <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/wecan/downloads/tips.pdf> and

<https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/wecan/tools-resources/parent-tip-sheets.htm#activity>.

Field Trips and Transportation

We do not leave our facility for field trips and we do not provide transportation.

SDOC will provide transportation via a school bus for children in our afterschool program

Resources and Referrals

Agency	Websites	Contact Number
ABC Child Care Voucher Program	https://www.scchildcare.org/programs/child-care-scholarship-program/	1-800-262-4416
SC SNAP (Food Stamps)	https://dss.sc.gov/assistance-programs/snap/	1-800-616-1309
SC Medicaid	https://www.scdhhs.gov/	(888) 549-0820
Oconee County Child Find	https://www.sdoc.org/departments/instruction/early-learning/child-find	864-718-5142
BabyNet	https://www.scdhhs.gov/resources/programs-and-initiatives/babynet/families	1-866-512-8881
South Carolina Child Care Resource & Referral Network (SC-CCRRN)	https://www.sc-ccrr.org/	1 (888) 335-1002
South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs	https://ddsn.sc.gov/	1-888-376-4636
SC Department of Mental Health	https://www.scdmh.org/	1-803- 898-8581
SC Child Care Inclusion Collaborative	https://www.scinclusion.org/	803-509-1248
Report Child Abuse and Neglect	https://dss.sc.gov/child-well-being/report-child-abuse-and-neglect/#:~:text=Need%20to%20report%20abuse%20or,%2D888%2D227%2D3487.	1-888-227-3487
Oconee County DSS	https://dss.sc.gov/	864-638-4400
Family Connection of SC	https://www.familyconnectionsc.org/	1-800-578-8750
South Carolina Program for Infant Toddler Care	https://www.scpitc.org/	
Zero to Three	https://www.zerotothree.org/	
Child and Adult Care Food Program	https://dss.sc.gov/assistance-programs/food-and-nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program-cacfp/	888-834-8096
SC Beginnings	https://www.beginningssc.org/	803-216-1171
WIC - Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program	https://dph.sc.gov/health-wellness/family-planning/women-infants-and-children-wic-nutrition-program	1-855-472-3432