

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Commonwealth Children's Center (CCC) is a private, non-profit, non-affiliated NAEYC accredited early childhood educational program that is open to the general public with enrollment priority given to state employees. CCC provides care for children ages 3 months to 6 years. We have warm, nurturing classrooms for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten children. Our center is open from 8:15am to 5:30pm Monday through Friday year round (with exception of holidays and staff development days). CCC is governed by a parent-community board.

MISSION & PHILOSOPHY

The Commonwealth Children's Center has become a model for early childhood education. CCC thrives on its unique ability to attract families from economically and geographically diverse neighborhoods to the rich history of downtown Boston. Our teachers embrace this diversity by fostering each child's individuality, creativity and learning style in a nurturing environment with strong home-school connections. We demonstrate our commitment to public service and diversity by providing tuition on a sliding scale to State employees and welcoming voucher families to our Center. We ensure that at the Commonwealth Children's Center, the children ARE the center.

STAFF

Our staff is comprised of early childhood professionals who meet or exceed state regulations. Each staff member contributes to the planning and implementation of curriculum in order to provide a safe, nurturing, and engaging school experience for each child.

CURRICULUM

Teaching staff plan a developmentally appropriate curriculum for each child using the *Creative Curriculum* program. We believe in emergent curriculum where activities are based on the children's interests and needs. Our curriculum is designed to foster the continued development of each individual child's cognitive, physical, social and emotional growth through hands-on active exploration, experimentation, and creative expression.

COMMUNICATION

Teachers and parents communicate daily using our unique communication notebooks to record observations and questions that are used to develop our individual curriculum and complete observational profiles and portfolios. Our open-door visitation policy strengthens home-school connections that enhance our family-like environment.

TUITION

Tuition varies depending on the program in which each child is to be enrolled (Infant, Toddler, Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten Readiness). Tuition for State employees is based on a sliding scale fee according to total yearly household income. Sibling discounts are available. Child care vouchers are accepted. Limited part-week slots and half-day preschool slots are available. For more information on rates, please contact CCC or visit our website at www.commchildcenter.com.

ADMISSION / ENROLLMENT

Admissions are made for all programs on a September to September model as well as on a space available basis. Selection is made by the date of the preliminary application form, with priority given to children of State employees and siblings of students already enrolled in the Center. CCC welcomes children and their families without regard to race, religion, culture, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, or political beliefs.

A Community Based Center where Beacon Hill families can walk together between our Center, home, and work.

PLAYGROUND

October 2003 marked the grand opening of our private outdoor playground! It is located directly adjacent to our classrooms allowing for easy daily access. Our playground provides a secure and developmentally appropriate play space for children and peace of mind for our parents and staff.

FIELD TRIPS / ENRICHMENT

Our children also participate in adventures to the Boston Commons, Athenaeum, West End Library, Hill House, and local parks, as well as programs with the Museum of Fine Arts, Music with Philip, My First Yoga, and Mass Audubon.

LOCATION

CCC is conveniently located on Beacon Hill at One Ashburton Place in the John W. McCormack Building. Special parking arrangements are made when dropping off and picking up children at the Center.

"I get to commute in with my daughter and join her for lunch every day! I'm so grateful for the extra father/daughter time CCC provides." – Preschool Parent

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