

PRESBYTERIAN DAY SCHOOL

1201 FIFTH AVENUE
CORAOPOLIS, PA 15108



EMAIL: DAYSCHOOL.PRESCOR@VERIZON.NET

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 412-264-0470

EXT. 16 - DIRECTOR

EXT. 13 - TODDLERS THRU PRESCHOOL AGE

EXT. 25 - PRESCHOOL TEACHER

2022-2023

Welcome to the Presbyterian Day School of Coraopolis. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you and your precious little one. Thank you for choosing us to be a vital part of your child's first learning experience. Our Day School is committed to enriching the lives of all the children we meet. We provide high-quality care and lots of love in a Christian-oriented environment. We have designed programs which foster learning, cognitive development, and social skills— elements that are fundamental in the healthy development of every child.

We are providing you with a copy of our latest handbook which contains childcare rates as well as information we feel is pertinent for you to know about our Day School Program. Please review it carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call at any time. If I am unavailable, leave a message, and I will return your call as soon as possible. Thank you for sharing your child with us and for your continued interest in the Presbyterian Day School of Coraopolis.

Mary Merryman, Director, & the Day School Board of Directors

OUR DAY SCHOOL FAMILY

The Day School Staff has been carefully selected for their qualities and background appropriate for working with children. Every staff member is different, with each one possessing unique abilities and talents to offer the children comfort, security, and many happy experiences. All staff members are certified in Pediatric CPR and First Aid. They also have their Act 33 & 34 Clearances, National Sex Offender Registry clearance, as well as FBI fingerprinting. Finally, each staff member has completed Safe Sanctuary Training, a conduct policy implemented through the church that all users of the building, both members and non-members alike, must adhere to.

Director

Mary Merryman

Preschool Teacher

Lilly Kuhn (2022-2023)

Preschool Teacher Assistant

Diana Digregorio (2022-2023)

Child Care Staff

Kari Baloga

Eva Davis

Marianne Desiderio

Meghan Hardiman

Hannah Kanuch

Chrissy Schrecengost

Tara Pallas Sheetz

Naomi Steals

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Your child will be kept happy and busy each day at the Presbyterian Day School. Every day we will sing songs, read stories, play games, have supervised free playtime, and some of these activities will reflect our Christian values. Toddlers and Preschoolers are offered a variety of craft activities. Our Preschool Program, which is offered as an option for 3-year and 4-year-olds, offers a more structured learning environment. A fenced-in play area is available outside. We go out as much as possible during the months of April through October, weather permitting. The Social Hall, which is located on the lower level of the building, is equipped with a wide variety of toys that encourage your child to engage in large motor skill activities and group games during the winter months or when the weather does not allow us to go outdoors.

PROCARE CONNECT

We use the *ProCare Connect* app to record all of your child's daily information. For infants, that includes bottles, food, naps, and changes. For toddlers, that includes naps and potty/diaper changes. Once your child is potty trained, we do not record trips to the restroom. This app also provides messaging to your child's teachers. Please understand that they are also taking care of the children and will get back to you as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Day School participates in a community garden with The Coraopolis Community Development Foundation. The garden is located behind the church on the other side of the alley. We also assist in different drives throughout the year to support the Foundation and the community.

LEARNING SERVICES

The Day School works with several agencies to identify any learning issues, as well as, hearing and vision challenges. These begin in the preschool class. If you have any concerns about your child at any age, please reach out to us. Early intervention and DART information is included at the end of this handbook.

FUNDRAISING/DONATIONS

The Presbyterian Day School will be hosting a variety of fundraisers throughout the year. We are asking that all of our families participate in one form or another. This helps us provide the best care for your little ones. Wish Lists will be published periodically. The items we request could be big or small, new or used. Any donations help us keep our costs down while providing quality care. Please donate if you are able.

TUITION AGREEMENT

When you register for any of our services, you will need to sign an Agreement for tuition payment. This states the length of your agreement, monthly tuition due, and when your child will be attending. You will be given a copy of your agreement once signed, and a copy will remain in your child's file. Tuition is always due on the first of the month. There is a mailbox located on our front door for dropping off tuition. The initial Tuition payment will be accepted in the form of a money order or check. Please write your child's first and last name on the payment so it is credited to the proper account. It is important to place your payments in an envelope. Any loose payments get stuck in the mailbox and can be overlooked. **No tuition should be given to staff; you must place it in the mailbox.** Once you are registered with us, online payments are available.

If you should fall behind in payments, you will be reminded once. **If you become a month past due, your child cannot attend until the account is brought up to date.** Should a family have a medical issue or a job lay off, please contact the Director as soon as possible. There are options, such as our hardship program, that can help families get through a rough time.

All families are given one week's credit for vacation per calendar year **if they attend year round.** This will be credited to your account the month after your vacation has been used. If a family attends only preschool, the credit is one week to be used in the 9 months of preschool for vacation.

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND SNACKS

All food, drinks and snacks are brought in by the child's parent.

We can serve your child breakfast until 8 am. You will need to send in breakfast and arrive before 8 am.

Please label all lunch boxes, meal containers, drinks, utensils, and snacks with your child's name.

Please include an ice pack for things that need to remain chilled until lunch. Some rooms do not have a refrigerator.

Please do not send frozen meals. Lunches should be simple and only require a quick heating in the microwave.

Do not send any Styrofoam items or plastic grocery bags. These are hazardous to the children.

Birthdays

When your child would like to celebrate their birthday at the Day School, please inquire with their teachers about the number of children and appropriate celebratory items. There are allergies that need to be considered. A non-food item may be easier.

Infants

Parents of infants are asked to supply us with a feeding schedule to follow. As this schedule changes, please notify the staff so our records can be updated. We will store your container in our refrigerator and feed your child at the designated times. Please make sure all baby food jars, plastic containers, and bottles are labeled with your child's name to ensure he/she always gets the right food at mealtime.

Snacks

The Day School will have a snack time with water to drink twice a day; once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Parents are responsible for sending in snacks either in the lunchbox or brought in, in bulk, and left in storage until they need to be replenished.

CLOTHING AND DIAPERS

Please send your child in play clothes so he/she can feel comfortable while playing and moving throughout the day. **No flip flops, crocs, or dress shoes please. All sandals must have a strap on the back and stay on your child's feet.** Parents need to send in an extra set of clothing and underwear for your child in case he/she has an accident, gets excessively dirty, or gets paint on their clothes. The extra set of clothes may be left at Day Care in a backpack or duffle bag on your child's hook or brought in daily. Remember to replenish your child's clothing once they are used or when the seasons change. We have very limited extra clothing on hand; therefore, it is the parent's responsibility to make sure their child always has extra clothes on hand. Otherwise, you will need to be called to bring clothing for your child whenever he/she has an accident.

All your child's belongings must be clearly labeled, including all outerwear such as coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, boots, etc. This will enable parents, staff members, and anyone else who may pick up your child to identify his/her belongings at the end of the day, as well as prevent clothing mix-ups.

Parents are responsible for providing disposable diapers, pull ups, and wipes for their child. We will let you know when they need to be replenished. **When using pull-ups, they must be the brand with Velcro strips on both sides. This allows for easy on and easy removal at the changing table or in the restroom.**

TOYS AND PERSONAL ITEMS

We offer the children a wide variety of toys to play with. Children are not permitted to bring toys into the child care from home. If a child brings a toy from home, it will be placed with their belongings to go home. The Day School will not be responsible for clothing, toys, or other items which may get lost, broken, or traded.

Please keep in mind that the children are not permitted to bring items such as gum, candy, or money with them into the Day School. These items pose as a choking threat to our younger children. Also, older children are not permitted to bring phones or tablets into the classrooms. If these or any toys come with the children, the item will remain in the hall on the child's hook.

DROP OFF & PICK UP

All children must be dropped off by 9:00 a.m. for child care. This is when we are beginning our daily activities. Drop off at 9:00 a.m. will prevent disruptions to learning.

For Preschool all children must be dropped off at 8:30 a.m.; this is when the program starts. Drop off and pick up must be made by a adult, 18 years of age or older. Please do not send other children such as siblings to the door. Do not send your child to the door by themselves. An adult must walk them into the building and to their class.

Pick up time is when the pick up person arrives. Children are not permitted to decide to stay later. We will see them next time they attend.

The Church and Day School have a video doorbell monitoring system. All doors will be locked throughout the day. The parking lot door is the only one in the building that has monitoring access; all other doors will be locked throughout the day. When you arrive in the morning or afternoon, you will have to be buzzed into the building. When you press the button, a bell will ring in the Day School and Church Office. We will see you on our monitor, speak with you, and then buzz you in. The door will not be opened for people we do not recognize or for people we are not expecting. Every parent and guardian is responsible for delivering their child to the classroom and for picking them up. Please say hello to the adult in the room to be sure he/she knows your child has arrived for the day. If you do not check in with the adult in charge, your child may not be marked in and accounted for. When sending someone else to pick up your child, please notify the Day School beforehand. A child will not be released to anyone unauthorized by the parent. Identification, such as a Driver's License, will be required by the Day School staff when anyone is picking up a child for the first time or if a staff member has not previously met or seen the individual picking your child.

We expect all person's picking up your child(ren) to arrive in a sober, courteous manner. If you or anyone else picking up your child appears to be intoxicated, we will encourage you (them) to make alternative childcare arrangements by asking you to call someone else for a ride. If you refuse, there is not anything we can do. But we will alert the police giving them your name, make, and model of car, as well as your license plate number. We hope everyone will support this policy and not put yourself, your child, or the Day School in this compromising position. This is for your family's safety.

Firearms and weapons are prohibited in a Child Day Care Facility. This includes but is not limited to, all guns, stun guns, fireworks, knives, or any other metal blade with a pointed edge. If you are seen with any type of weapon, you will be verbally asked to return it to your vehicle before engaging with any of the children, including your own. If this happens a second time, the Director will report it to the Pastor and/or local police for additional assistance.

Finally, anyone who has been convicted of any type of child abuse, child neglect, child endangerment, child violence, or moral corruptness may not enter the Day School premises during hours of operation. If a parent has been convicted of one of these felonies or is awaiting trial, that parent is not permitted to come in and pick up their child. A staff member may be asked to meet them on the porch or send someone else in while they wait in their vehicle.

SCHEDULE AND CALENDAR

Our facility is open year-round, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The following are dates when the Day School will be closed:

Good Friday

Memorial Day

Fourth of July

Labor Day

Thanksgiving and the Friday after Thanksgiving

Christmas Break -Closed Christmas Eve through New Year's Day. We re-open the first business day after New Year's Day.

(Please mark these dates on your calendar now.)

The Day School makes every effort to send notifications when we are closed or offering abbreviated services in order for you to make other arrangements for your child's care.

CHILD SERVICE REPORT

The state requires that our facility complete a Child Service Report on your child every 6 months. This report goes over your child's age-appropriate strengths, what we are working on next, and how you can help your child reach these goals at home. These observations go along with the Pennsylvania Learning Standards.

PROGRESSION FROM ROOM TO ROOM

If you child is with us long enough, and we hope they are, they will move from room to room as they progress in skills and become older. Different skills are needed to be able to move to the next room. It is not only about age but about how your child can function in the next room. A few months before a transition, the Director will begin communicating with you about your child's strengths and what needs to be worked on. We begin working on skills in the classroom long before the child's transition. We wait for the child to show us that they are ready. We use observation and the above Child Service Report to look for these skills. The transition is not automatic at a certain age. We meet your child where they are and encourage progress.

IMPORTANT FORMS

Emergency Form: Every line on the Emergency Form must be filled out. If an item does not apply to your child, you may fill in "N/A". We do need permissions for emergency care and first aid. We do need your child's Insurance information in case of an emergency.

If your child has ANY allergies, food or seasonal, please list them. Please list any health issues the child is being seen for like asthma or epilepsy. Please list any diagnosis we need to be aware of, such a ADHD or Autism.

When registering for childcare, you must fill out your child's Emergency Form and Health Form. They contain information which may be needed if your child becomes ill, has an accident, or there is an emergency of some sort due to inclement weather, loss of heat ,or a water main break, to name a few. **The state requires that all emergency papers be updated every 6 months or sooner if there are changes.** It is our intent to be open through any type of weather. Nevertheless, there may be times we need to call a delay, close early, or cancel daily services all together. To stay informed of possible changes due to inclement weather, please tune into WPXI channel 11 and their website. **You will not receive a direct phone call.** If there is an alternative emergency such as no heat or a water main break, you will receive a telephone call informing you of the situation and what arrangements the Day School is making for childcare that day.

Child Health Report: This form must be filled out by your child's doctor. You must include their record of immunizations. Immunizations are required to attend childcare.

Flu shots are required by the state for children attending childcare. If you strongly oppose the flu shot, you must submit a letter stating that for us to keep in your child's file.

Children 0-2 must have the health report updated every 6 months.

Children 2 and up must have the health report updated every year. It is good practice to get a health report every time your child is at the doctor for their check up.

Agreement: The agreement states the fees, attendance, and other important information required to have your child in care.

HEALTH AND ILLNESS POLICY

We reserve the right to send a child home if he/she is ill upon arrival at school. If your child should become ill during the day, he/she will be sent home sick, a note describing what symptoms we have observed, when he/she can return to day care, and if a doctor's excuse is needed upon returning. **If a sibling is too ill to attend care, then all siblings must stay home as well to prevent illness from spreading. If a child is picked up due to illness, the siblings will be sent home as well.**

When your child is running a fever, vomiting or has diarrhea, you are required to keep him/her home to prevent other children and staff members from becoming ill. Likewise, if you, your spouse or another family member is ill, we kindly ask that you refrain from entering the Day School area to prevent other children and staff members from contracting your illness. **If the health and wellness policy is not followed, or teachers are given false information about the health of your child, the services we provide will be suspended or terminated.** When a sick child is sent to child care, it puts everyone in the building at risk. Do not bring in a child that is feverish or has diarrhea that you have controlled with medications. If a child needs medications for these symptoms, they need to be at home. If they develop fever or have diarrhea during care, they will be sent home.

Your child **cannot return to Day Care** until he/she has been fever free for 24 hours and has had a solid bowel movement without the use of fever reducing/diarrhea medicines. 24 hours is a full 24 hours, not just the next morning. For example, if the child is sent home at Noon, they cannot attend the next day because it has not been a full 24 hours. When your child is taking an antibiotic, he/she cannot return to Day School for 24 hours from his/her first dose.

Your child will not be permitted to attend Day Care if he/she has any of the following infectious diseases:

Chicken Pox	Flu	Scabies	Scarlet Fever	N1H1
Impetigo	Croup	Worms	Hand/Foot Disease	COVID-19
Strep	Thrush	Measles/Mumps	Fifth Disease	
Diarrhea	Lice	Ringworm	Conjunctivitis-pink eye	

There are many other illnesses which require that your child be out of the Day School. We must be informed if your child has a communicable disease. Please call us if you have any questions, and we will refer to the Allegheny County Health Department Handbook. When your child is ready to return to Day Care, a doctor's certification of health may be required. **If your child suffers from seasonal allergies or any skin rashes like eczema, it needs to be listed on their health report.** This will prevent confusion with colds and rashes. If it is not listed and signed off on by their doctor, they will need to be seen to rule out anything contagious.

Furthermore, if your child has any type of surgery (tubes, adenoids, tonsils, etc.), he/she cannot return to Day School the same day, and we must receive a note releasing your child from Doctor's Care stating that it is safe for them to attend childcare.

Our Staff is not permitted to dispense any medication to the children. If your child needs medicine while in our care, you will have to plan for someone to come and give it to them. Do not send medication in bottles or hidden in food. This is dangerous and illegal. Childcare centers that do give medications are required to have original bottles for safety. We are not permitted to give any medication.

We are also concerned about your child's emotional well-being. Please advise us if your child is involved in any potentially stressful situations. The separation or divorce of parents, the illness or death of a family member, friend, or even a pet can be upsetting to your young child and can greatly affect his/her behavior. Please let us know, so that we can be sensitive to your child's needs. Any personal matter you would mention to the staff will remain confidential.

All children entering our program must be up to date on immunizations. Proof of immunizations is required when you register and must be updated when new immunizations are given. Flu shots are required by the state. If you strongly oppose the flu shot, a letter stating that must be in your child's file.

DIAPERING AND TOILET TRAINING

Parents are required to supply diapers, pull ups, wipes, and diaper cream. Diapering is done every two hours as required by the state or sooner if needed. If a diaper is dry, it will be listed so that you know we checked.

The decision to potty train begins at home. Once you have established a consistent potty-training routine, please notify the staff, and let us know what you are doing so we can work together to train your child. At first, we will put your child on the potty every hour to hour and a half or so to get a routine started. If you would like us to give a reward, you are welcome to send it in with your child. We will try to mimic the home routine as much as possible in childcare. Please understand that childcare is not the same as home. Many children struggle to stop playing and pay attention to their body cues. You may be potty training one to two children where we can be potty training up to 12.

Please keep in mind:

- Potty training is a journey.
- We do not potty train children under 2 years old. Those under 2 are in our infant room, and staffing does not permit the time to work on potty training.
- Your child will have accidents. Please supply many pull ups, underwear, and changes of clothes.

- Your child will need to wear pull ups until they have shown consistency in telling their teacher that they need to go potty. A child is not fully potty trained until they can tell their teacher that they need to go.
- If your child refuses to use the potty, you will see it noted in the app. We will not force children onto the potty.
- The Day School must maintain sanitary standards for everyone in the building. We cannot have urine and feces uncontained through accidents into the carpet, on the floor, or in a child's underwear. If your child tries underwear and has 2 accidents in one day, they will be in a pull up for the rest of the day. If your child pees on the potty but cannot have their BM on the potty, they need to remain in a pull up. We will continue to take them to the potty.
- When diapering, our staff uses nitrile gloves. If your child is sensitive to these products or allergic to them, please provide the staff with an alternative.

NAPS

We will follow the parent's nap schedule for infants. Once the child is 1 year old, we try to get them on our nap schedule which is 12:00 Noon—2:15 p.m. All toddler and preschool aged children take naps after lunch. The children are not required to sleep, but after a busy morning, some rest and quiet time are needed. Parents supply a blanket, pillow, and stuffed animal. These items go home weekly to be cleaned. This helps to control germ spreading. At around 4 years old we can discuss giving up naps if that is what parent would like.

FEES

Registration: \$50.00. This fee is required to start any program and is non refundable.

Spots being held:

If you currently have a child attending and you would like to remove your child from care for the summer but retain the spot for the fall, the fee is \$100.00 per month, due on the first of the month. Your child must begin again in August or September, or the spot is forfeited. This is only available for summer care.

If you are on the Waiting List and your spot becomes available, you must pay the registration fee to accept the spot. This will hold for up to 30 days. At that time, if you are not ready to start care but wish to hold the spot, 1/3 of the monthly tuition is due every month until you begin care.

Please note that prices are subject to change.

We do not accept drop-in care. Extra days are available when ratio and staffing allow. Fees will apply. These changes must be made through the Director.

If you do not pick up your child by 6:00 p.m., you will be charged \$1.00 per minute that you are late.

Every family is given 1 week of vacation credited to their account when they attend year round. They must notify the Director. Preschool families may use 1 week of vacation during their 9 months of attendance.

At Christmas time when the Day School is closed, Christmas break is credited to each child attending on a regular basis.

Current Rates and Fees Effective September 1, 2021

* Fees are per month, per child.

*5% discount on oldest child's fee for two children in same family.

No Drop-In Care

Tuition payments are due the first of each month

INFANTS & YOUNG TODDLERS		OLDER TODDLERS	
6 weeks to 2 years		2 to 3 years	
Half Days	N/A	Half Days	N/A
2 Days/week	\$483	2 Days/week	\$380
3 Days/week	\$664	3 Days/week	\$573
4 Days/week	\$845	4 Days/week	\$748
5 Days/week	\$1052	5 Days/week	\$935

PRE-SCHOOL		DAYCARE	
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.		3 & 4-year-old	
Full Days - greater than 5 hours		Full Days - greater than 5 hours	
2 Days/week	\$190	2 Days/week	\$340
3 Days/week	\$265	3 Days/week	\$507
		4 Days/week	\$700
		5 Days/week	\$905

Before and After School care, Ages 5+ Speak to the Director.

Registration Fee = \$50

\$15 monthly supply fee per family

Return Check Fee = \$25.00 + Bank Fees

EMERGENCY PLAN INFORMATION

To the Parent (s)/Guardian (s) of ***child attending PDS:***

This letter is to assure you of our concern for the safety and welfare of children attending ***The Presbyterian Day School.*** Our Emergency Plan provides for response to all types of emergencies. Depending on the circumstance of the emergency, we will use one of the following protective actions:

- ◆ *Immediate evacuation:* Students are evacuated to a safe area on the grounds of the facility in the event of a fire, etc. In case of inclement weather, we may then proceed indoors at a neighbor.
- ◆ *In-place sheltering:* Sudden occurrences, weather, or hazardous materials related may dictate that taking cover inside the building is the best immediate response.
- ◆ *Evacuation:* Total evacuation of the facility may become necessary if there is a danger in the area. In this case, children will be taken to a relocation facility. We currently have 2 available, they are:
 - ◇ Emergency Relocation “Facility A” at The Coraopolis United Methodist Church.
 - ◇ And Emergency Relocation “Facility B” at Cornell Elementary.

If it ever becomes necessary to relocate, a sign will be posted on the door stating which Facility we’ve gone to (A or B).

If you’re not sure how to get to either Facility, please ask for directions before there is an emergency.

- ◆ *Modified Operation:* May include cancellation/postponement or rescheduling of normal activities. These actions are normally taken in case of a winter storm or building problems (such as utility disruptions) that make it unsafe for children, but may be necessary in a variety of situations.

Please listen to **WPXI Channel 11** for announcements relating to any of the emergency actions listed above.

We ask that you not call during the emergency. This will keep the main telephone line free to make emergency calls and relay information.

The form you fill out at enrollment titled “Emergency Contacts” is used to contact you in these situations. As stated in your Handbook, these must be updated with any changes right away. This form will be used every time your child is released. Please ensure that only those persons you list on the form attempt to pick up your child.

We realize that emergency circumstances may require changes to your plans, but we urge you to not attempt to make different arrangements if possible. This will only create additional confusion and divert staff from their assigned emergency duties.

To assure the safety of your children and our staff, we ask for your understanding and cooperation. Should you have additional questions regarding our emergency operating procedures, contact **Mary Merryman, Director, at 412-264-0470, ext. 16.**

Presbyterian Day School

1201 Fifth Avenue
Coraopolis, PA 15108
Mary Merryman, Director
412.264.0470 ext. 16

To: Parents/Guardians

From: Mary Merryman, Director

Admissions, the provisions of services, and referrals of clients shall be made without regards to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, or sex.

Program services shall be made accessible to eligible persons with disabilities through the most practical and economically feasible methods available. These methods include, but are not limited to, equipment redesign, the provision of aides, and the use of alternative service delivery locations. Structural modifications shall be considered only as a last resort among available methods.

Any individual/client/patient/student (and/or their guardian) who believes they have been discriminated against may file a complaint of discrimination with:

Presbyterian Day School
1201 5th Avenue
Coraopolis, PA 15108

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Human Resources
Bureau of Equal Opportunity
Room 225 Health & Welfare Building
P.O Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17110

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Human Services
Bureau of Equal Opportunity
Western Regional Office
301 Fifth Avenue
Suite 410 Piatt Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-1210

PA Human Relation Commission
Pittsburgh Regional Office
301 Fifth Avenue
Suite 390, Piatt Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

U.S Dept of Health and Human Services
Office for Civil Rights
Suite 372, Public Ledger Building
150 South Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-9111

DART is an acronym that stands for **D**iscovery, **A**ssessment, **R**eferral and **T**racking.

DART Preschool Early Intervention:

- Finds eligible children, ages three to five, who have developmental delays or disabilities in the 42 school districts in Allegheny County.
- Provides free screenings/evaluations to identify needs in communication, adaptive, cognitive, fine motor, gross motor, personal/social areas.
- Provides free early intervention services, at no cost to parents.
- Includes developmental, speech/language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, vision, hearing and family services.
- Provided by highly qualified staff of special educators, therapists, and paraprofessionals, year-round.

Eligibility

- Children must be three to five years old and demonstrate a delay of 25% or more in one or more developmental area (communication, adaptive, cognitive, fine motor, gross motor, personal/social) on a standardized assessment.

Service Delivery

- Services are provided in the Least Restrictive Environment.
- Itinerant services are provided in a child's preschool, child care, Head Start classroom, Pre-K Counts classroom, or home. Over 78% of children are served in these inclusive environments.
- Preschool special education classrooms are provided in school district or church buildings.

What Should I Do First?

- Call 412-394-5904 to arrange a free screening/evaluation.

Early Intervention

- Early Intervention is a variety of supports and services designed to build and enhance the natural learning that occurs in the early years. Supports and services are provided in the home, child care site, and other community settings identified by the family. Any child, age birth to three years, living in Allegheny County, is eligible for a developmental screen through Early Intervention.

The Alliance for Infants and Toddlers

The Alliance enables families to:

- Locate the most appropriate services for their child and family.
- Focus on positive, practical ways of helping their child with a variety of daily activities.
- Participate in these supports in their home and community.

The Alliance is available to any Allegheny County family if:

- They have concerns about their child's development.
- Their child is at risk for developing delays due to such factors as prematurity or a stay in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

How to Get Started

Families:

- If you have concerns about your child's development or would like to know more about Early Intervention services, contact the Alliance at 412-885-6000.

Community programs, physicians, other family members:

- With parental permission, you may refer to the Alliance by calling the above number.