

## PHILOSOPHY

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All children deserve a good beginning in life. The staff of the Child Development & Education Center believes that it must work to meet the needs of the whole child; respect and recognize individual differences in children and their families; and provide a safe, physical and psychological environment where children are accepted, nurtured and listened to. Parents and the CDEC staff are partners in providing care and education for young children. Thus, mutual respect and open communication must exist among parents, staff, and administration of the CDEC. All people associated with the CDEC - children, students, parents, and staff - are lifelong learners, ever changing and growing in knowledge and understanding.



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An Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Institution

07/21

The Mary Lou O'Conner  
Child Development  
& Education Center



Serving  
Children, Families,  
and the College Community

Northwest Florida State College

100 College Boulevard East  
Niceville, FL 32578

(850) 729-5343

Florida License No. C010K0018

Accredited by NAEYC's  
National Academy of Early Childhood  
Programs



## MISSION OF THE CDEC

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The mission of the Child Development and Education Center is:

- To provide quality care and education for young children, ages 2 and a half to 5 years
- To provide parents who are Northwest Florida State College students, staff, and faculty (and community members on a space available basis) with quality, accessible child care and education for their children
- To provide a quality training site for child development/early childhood education students

### ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. Child must be 2 and a half, 3, 4, or 5 years old.
2. Child must be independently toilet trained. (Able to handle own clothing and take care of personal hygiene.)
3. Child must have an official Department of Children and Families health certificate issued in the last year.
4. Child must have up-to-date Department of Children and Families immunization record.
5. Priority of placement is given to NWF State College students, staff and faculty.

## DAYS & HOURS OF OPERATION

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Monday through Friday  
7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

<b>CHILD CARE FEES 2021-2022*</b>	
Annual Registration Fee:	\$155.00 Annual** <i>** Annual Fee Waived for Faculty/Staff/Students</i>
Daily Child Care Fees:	\$37.00 Daily
Monday-Friday (VPK - Wrap-Around 3.75 hours of care funded by OEL)	\$31.00 Daily

### ATTENDANCE OPTIONS\*

Children who will be/are 2 and a half, 3, or 4, but not 4 years-old by 9/1/2021, may be enrolled

5 days ..... Monday - Friday  
3 days ..... Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
2 days ..... Tuesday, Thursday

Children who are 4 by 9/1/2021 are eligible to participate in the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program and may attend

- 5 days per week with full day care. Parent must pay for care before and after the 3.75 hour VPK portion of the day.

### APPLICATION PROCESS\*

Parents may complete an application by coming to the CDEC office in Building 530.

\* *Subject to change*

## THE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

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Children learn by doing. The environment of the CDEC invites children to learn by interacting with teachers, materials, and other children. The program promotes emotional, cognitive, and physical development by providing opportunities for each child:

- To experience a sense of self-esteem
- To exhibit a positive attitude toward life
- To demonstrate cooperative, pro-social behavior
- To acquire learning and problem-solving skills
- To expand logical thinking skills
- To acquire concepts and information leading to a fuller understanding of the immediate world
- To demonstrate skills in make-believe play
- To expand verbal communication skills
- To develop beginning reading and writing skills
- To enhance gross and fine motor skills
- To use all senses in learning