

Tri-County Community Council, Inc.
Head Start/Early Head Start

Part: 1302 Program Operations

Subpart: C-Education and Child Development Program Services

Section: 1302.34 Parent and Family Engagement in Education and Child Development Services

Subject: Parent & Family Engagement and Involvement

Policy:

Head Start/Early Head Start will recognize the parents/guardians as the child's primary teachers, and encourage parents to engage in their child's education. The program will provide parents/guardians and family members an opportunity to be involved in the program's education services and policies.

Procedure:

1. The parents and family members will be welcome to visit the centers during all hours of operation.
2. The teaching staff will communicate regularly with parents about their child's routine, activities, and behavior.
3. The teaching staff will conduct two parent conferences per program year for each child's family, to enhance the knowledge and understanding of both staff and parents of the child's education and developmental progress and activities in the program.
4. The parents will be encouraged to attend the program site's parent meeting, serve on the Education Advisory Committee, and to serve on the Policy Council.
5. The parents and family members will be encouraged to volunteer in the classroom, on field trips, and participate in the monthly parent/child activity day.
6. The teaching staff will inform parents about the purposes of and the results of screenings, assessments, and discuss their child's progress.
7. The teaching staff will conduct at least two home visits per program year for each child's family to engage the parent in the child's learning and development.
8. The home visits may take place at the program site or another safe location that affords privacy at the parent's request, or if the parent does not want to do the home visit at their home, they will need to provide a written statement to that effect.

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9. The program will welcome and encourage families to participate in the child/parent activities, volunteer in the classroom, and encourage the families to participate in all other activities at the center.

10. Family Engagement and Involvement in the classroom will be limited when there are issues that affect the health and safety of the children and staff.

*(Applicable during a Pandemic or other catastrophic emergency only). Field trips will be temporarily discontinued. If feasible and the weather permits, we will follow CDC guidelines on any Family Engagement and Involvement activities.