

ECE Philosophy

Early learning paves the way for learning at school and throughout life. What children learn in their first few years of life – and how they learn it – can have long-lasting effects on their success and health as children, teens, and adults (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development).



Our philosophy reflects what we know about how development unfolds and is shaped by the following core beliefs:

- **Strong, positive relationships** - built through warm, sensitive, responsive interactions **only possible with low teacher:child ratios** - provide the foundation for a child's long-term social, emotional, and cognitive development.
- **Social-emotional development is the foundation** for all other areas of learning, so we focus on identifying and expressing emotions, preparing children to solve social conflicts, discerning right and wrong, and understanding the needs of others.
- Your child's success in school and in life depends on this solid foundation and **rich learning opportunities that promote all areas of development**, including language, literacy, and communication; mathematics; science and technology; and creative arts.
- **Our teacher-designed environments** – our classrooms in the building and outdoors, motor room and gyms, playgrounds, and state-certified school forest – engage children in exploration and encourage play in nature.
- **The uniqueness of each child is a gift** to every member of a classroom community. In our inclusive program, children of all abilities learn alongside each other, honor similarities and differences, and build empathy for others.
- **When developmental concerns arise, early intervention is critical** to long-term success. The brain is simply developing too fast to miss an opportunity to intervene and – by building and strengthening skills in children and parents – change a child's trajectory.
- **Partnering with families** each step on your parenting journey, through its joys and challenges, is paramount to us. We are grateful for your trust and for the opportunity to support you in the most important role of your life.