

WELCOME to the Chadron State College Child Development Center!

This is a child's place and we move at a child's pace!

Fall Semester: August 13th – December 14th

Spring Semester: January 2nd – May 3rd

The children will be exploring a wide variety of topics through walking field trips, play, books, projects, experiments, lots of outdoor experiences, guests/visitors, and hands-on experiences.

We are excited about the opportunities the Center can offer you and your family. We hope you will feel free to join us at any time as we explore and discover the world around us! ☺

Meet our Staff: We have a fantastic staff this year and are excited to work with your children and your families!

- Ms. Lona Downs - Director
- Miss Karen Broberg- Kitchen Manager

Our staff is very excited about:

- meeting every child's needs
- discovering every child's interests
- capturing every child's creativity
- providing learning opportunities that are FUN



Our curriculum is a play based emergent curriculum! We will be exploring a variety of topics by using the High Scope curriculum model as well, which is plan, do, and review! We are also hoping to implement the project approach in a variety of ways as the children lead our curriculum with their questions, interests, and curiosity.

You will see children and staff actively engaged all year long with different projects that help define and spark interest in Character Education, Nature, and Recycling. Children will experience discovery time, small and large group experiences as their physical, social, emotional and cognitive development evolves both inside and outside. You will discover, if you have not already, that **EVERY DAY IS AN ADVENTURE AT THE CDC.**

Assessment

Children will be assessed on their skills in the following areas: cognitive, social emotional, language, literacy, mathematics, physical, science and technology, social studies, and the arts. We use an assessment tool called Teaching Strategies Gold in which children are assessed based on their age. The children's progress and development will be shared with you twice a year at parent teacher conferences (October & March) as well as at pick-up and drop off times. Conferences of meetings can be arranged at any time if you have questions, concerns, or suggestions! We **MUST** communicate and work together to provide the best learning experience for the children!

Monthly Calendar and Newsletter

- Each month, we will publish a calendar identifying our plans for events and activities. Every day is special at CDC... come join us for the FUN!
- Children will participate in nature walks, exercise, gardening, cooking experiences, story time, pretend play, language and literacy, and much, much more as we explore our world together.
- As always, the events listed on the calendar are not set in stone. If our visitors are unable to come, we will adjust the curriculum around to fit the needs of everyone. If we decide to take a nap or eat lunch outside, we will do so. Needless to say, we will be flexible – so watch for signs, texts, notices, and emails about the changes that may occur. We will **ALWAYS** keep you informed about our daily events. As always, we invite and encourage parents and families to join us at any time!

Health, Wellness, and Safe Initiatives

As many of you already know, the Center staff is focused on the importance of health, wellness, and safe practices. The CDC will provide breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack.

- Our monthly menus are posted and will focus on healthy eating habits- **“the Plate”**
- We encourage rest and relaxation time during the day – inside and outside
- We exercise inside and outside daily -- exercise the mind and body ☺
- Water ... hydration is critical to brain development and learning



Please provide the following:

- Proper **clothing head to toe and supplies** (labeled and marked with child's name):
 - Shoes that have closed toes such as tennis shoes
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Sunscreen – (labeled and marked with your child's name)

Family Photos!

Please help us make our center feel homey by providing a family photo to be displayed at the center! You may print a picture and bring it in or email it to me to be printed! Thanks for your involvement!

DRESS for a MESS!

We are really going to focus on the children's exploration this year! They will be outside in the mud, water, and snow experimenting with various materials, and exploring sensory activities. Please understand that the children **WILL** get messy and should be dressed in clothes that can get dirty! We appreciate your support and understanding!

PLEASE keep toys, clothes, and excessive accessories at home. In order to keep our children happy, it is easier if these home items don't come to the CDC. We want to prevent them from getting lost or broken. It is also **MUCH** appreciated if you would **CLEAN** out your child's cubby at the end of each day (papers, random items, dirty clothes, etc).

Weekly Activities:

Thursdays are Bike/Sled Days: Feel free to bring your child/ren's bikes and helmets for them to ride at the CDC during warm sunny weather. As it turns cold and the snow falls, the children may bring a sled from home to use at the CDC.

Spontaneous Walks: During the year, the CDC children may take multiple walks around campus or to close parks during the day to explore the world around us.

Thank You

Thank You We wish to thank you for your patience, support and on-going involvement in the Center. We could not do our job without you! We are excited to offer families a high quality, early care and education program inclusive to all families. We welcome your comments, ideas, and suggestions at any time. Wishing you a year of Family Fun!

Please contact the Center if you have questions!

- CSC Child Development Center: 308-432-6379
- Lona Downs ldowns@csc.edu
- Feel free to text the remind message at any time as well!