

Welcome to Anoka-Hennepin Schools

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is based on the idea that parents provide their child's first and most significant learning environment and parents are children's first and most enduring teachers. ECFE works to support you as a parent/caregiver and to strengthen and empower families. The goal is to enhance the ability of all parents and other family members to provide the best possible environments for their child's learning and development.

Anoka-Hennepin Schools ECFE program:

- Provides hands-on learning experiences.
- Supports children's growth and development through play.
- Is taught by licensed early childhood educators and parenting educators.



Scan the code to learn more and register for ECFE.

WEATHER-RELATED CLOSURES

When snow or cold weather limits the ability to provide student transportation to and from school, Anoka-Hennepin Schools may close.

Where can I find updates on school closings?

ahschools.us/earlylearners

facebook.com/AnokaHennepinECFEandPreschool

763-506-1275 or any district telephone number to hear a recording.

Media outlets including WCCO, KSTP, FOX 9, KARE 11, and WCCO radio.

ECFE welcomes everyone!

If you are multilingual and would like assistance with ECFE registration or have a question about ECFE, please contact the Early Childhood Cultural Liaisons.

ECFE txais tos txhua tus!

Hmong

Yog tias koj hais ntau yam lus thiab xav tau kev pab sau npe rau ECFE los yog muaj lus nug txog ECFE, thov hu rau cov Cultural Liaisons ua hauj lwm rau cov menyuum kawm ntawv thaum ntxov.

LINDA YANG, 765-506-6176
linda.yang@ahschools.us

ECFE da la bienvenida a todas!

Spanish

Si ud es multilingüe y quisiera asistencia con la inscripción a ECFE o tiene preguntas sobre ECFE, por favor contacta la oficina de Early Childhood Cultural Liaisons.

ELISA BOTKER, 765-506-6184
elisa.botker@ahschools.us

DISCOVER COMMUNITY EDUCATION

ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOLS

ECFE LOCATIONS

ECFE MAIN OFFICE 763-506-1275

ANDOVER PRESCHOOL & FAMILY PLACE

763-767-3520
13632 Crosstown Blvd., Andover, MN 55304

ANOKA PRESCHOOL & FAMILY PLACE / ESC

763-506-1275
2727 N. Ferry St, Anoka, MN 55303
Enter Door No. 14

BLAINE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

763-433-4750
13001 Central Ave. NE, MN 55434

COON RAPIDS PRESCHOOL & FAMILY PLACE

763-433-4650
11254 Crooked Lake Blvd. NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433
Enter Door A

RIVERVIEW EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

763-506-6170
1400 93rd Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55444
Enter Door No. 6

SORTEBERG EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

763-433-4900
11400 Magnolia St. NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448
Enter Door No. 2

Follow us on Facebook

facebook.com/AnokaHennepinECFEandPreschool
ECFE and Anoka-Hennepin Schools Preschool program updates will be highlighted.

CONNECT WITH US!

We communicate important messages via SMS texting and email, be sure to provide this information in your Eleyo account and check that you want to receive messages from Anoka-Hennepin Schools.



Scan the code to log in to your Eleyo account

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Adult Basic Education (ABE)	763-433-4200
Adventures Plus school-age care	763-506-1400
Aquatics	763-506-5980
Anoka-Hennepin Schools Preschool	763-506-1500
Child Care Collaborative	763-506-6187
Community Education	763-506-1260
Community Schools	763-506-1260
Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	763-433-4800
Early Childhood Screening	763-433-4910
Educational Service Center (ESC)	763-506-1000
Family Welcome Center	763-433-4680

CRISIS NUMBERS ANSWERED 24 HOURS A DAY

Fire, Police, Ambulance	911
United Way 211	651-291-0211
Alexandra House for Battered Women, Anoka County	763-780-2330
Anoka County Child Protection	763-324-1440
Anoka County Mobile Crisis Response	763-755-3801 or 988
Home Free Shelter for Battered Women, Hennepin County	763-559-4945
Poison Control	800-222-1222

FAMILY RESOURCES

ACBC Food Shelf – Anoka County	763-422-0046
Anoka County – General Info	763-324-4000
Hennepin County – General Info	612-348-3000
ACCAP – Anoka County	763-783-4747
Adult/Child Mental Health Crisis, Anoka County	763-755-3801
Anoka County Traveler Transit Link	651-602-5465
CEAP – Anoka County	763-783-4930
CEAP – Hennepin County, (Food Assistance)	763-566-9600
Child Care Assistance – Anoka County	763-324-2350
Child Care Assistance – Hennepin County	612-348-5937
CROSS Food Shelf – Hennepin County	763-425-1050
Day One - Hennepin County	866-223-1111
Help Me Grow (referral, birth to 3)	866-693-4769
Housing Link	612-522-2500
Immunization Clinics – Anoka County	763-324-4210
Immunization Clinics – Hennepin County	612-348-2884
Judicare – Anoka County	763-783-4970
Legal Aid Society – Hennepin County	612-332-1441
Library – Anoka County	763-324-1500
Library – Hennepin County	612-543-6250
MN Relay Services	800-627-3529
People Inc. (Mental Health)	763-862-7944
Riverwind Crisis Response	763-473-7432
Resource Center for Fathers & Families	763-324-4230
WIC – Anoka County	763-324-4230
WIC – Hennepin County	612-348-6100

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ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOLS
Early Childhood
Family Education
(ECFE)

PROGRAM HANDBOOK 2024-2025



EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION
ECFE
ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOLS





CLASSROOM INFORMATION

ARRIVAL

- Because staff are preparing the classroom, please try to arrive no earlier than five minutes before class time.
- Please limit your cell phone use. We are here to play, learn and connect with each other.
- Hang coats and personal belongings in designated area.
- Check-in, put a nametag on yourself and your child every week.
- Wash hands with soap and water before starting class activities.

BIRTHDAYS

- We help children celebrate their special day with a crown/tiara, birthday song, and/or certificate from the teachers. If your family does not celebrate birthdays, please let staff know.
- Time spent in ECFE classes is limited and is focused on learning through play rather than celebrations.

CLOTHING

- Dress for getting messy, exploring and having fun.
- In the winter, bring shoes for your child to change into if they wear boots.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR GUIDANCE

- Anoka-Hennepin Schools Early Learning programs use teaching strategies and positive behavior management techniques to help children learn developmentally-appropriate behaviors for interacting with other children in a school environment. If children need additional support, staff will connect with parents to develop and implement a guidance plan to ensure a safe and secure classroom for all children and staff.
- As mandated reporters, we are required by law to report any signs of child abuse.

ROOM GUIDELINES

- Follow your child's lead. Use eye contact and get down to your child's level.
- Focus on your relationship with your child.
- Stay with your child - you are in charge of their safety and behavior.
- Encourage your child to participate.
- Young children are not expected to share. Sharing is a learned behavior that will develop over time.
- We expect crying and age-appropriate behavior from children. It's okay; this is a time for learning!
- Students need to be within age range of class to attend ECFE class.

CLASS STRUCTURE

- You and your child will spend time together in the classroom, which is set up with learning activities for families to enjoy together.
- During discussion time, children and parents/caregivers generally separate from each other (infants four months and younger stay with their parent/caregiver the entire class time).
- In some age specific classes, separation is gradual. Staff will work with you to make the process of separating during these classes go smoothly for both you and your child.
- Siblings of the registered child may not attend the ECFE class unless they are registered and fall within the age guidelines of the class.

CIRCLE TIME

- Some children will get up and wander; that is okay. We ask that the parent/caregiver stay in the circle while staff guide children back. Children ages three to five are encouraged to stay in circle.
- Children learn by repetition, so we often repeat songs and fingerplays.

CHILDREN'S TIME

- Children stay with the early childhood staff in the classroom.
- The parent educator's role during children's time is to observe, encourage, play and guide children's exploration and give help when needed.
- Children learn through their play. It is their work. They learn about themselves and others through initiating and participating in activities they choose and by being with other children.
- During this time, children are learning to:
 - Make their own choices.
 - Explore how things work and solve problems.
 - Develop and express imagination and creativity.
 - Express their feelings and energy in healthy ways.
 - Talk and share ideas.
 - Build strength and control of their bodies.
 - Increase their ability to concentrate.
- A simple snack may be shared. Snack time provides a great opportunity for children to work on social, emotional and language skills. **Donations of snacks are appreciated.**

PARENT/CAREGIVER DISCUSSION TIME

- Discussion time is planned to be relevant and tailored to participant needs, children's ages, and parent educator expertise. The Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework is used as a topic guide and content is structured around five main areas:
 - Early childhood development
 - Family development
 - Culture and community
 - Parent development
 - Parent-child relationship
- The parent educator brings knowledge and information based on current research and past experience with families.
- During discussion, keep in mind:
 - Personal information shared in the group is confidential.
 - Bring your questions, resources and other information to share.
 - We all have different ways of parenting. It's okay to disagree and still support each other.
- Parents/caregivers return to classroom following discussion time.

TSG FEEDBACK

- As part of the ECFE class, you and the early childhood staff will have opportunities to observe and learn about how your child is growing, developing, and learning.
- While observing children in the classroom, ECFE staff educator's use an adapted version of a child's development and learning assessment called Teaching Strategies Gold.

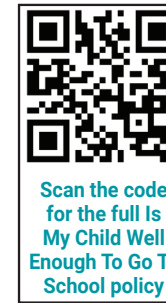
HEALTH AND SAFETY

CLEANING TOYS

- We disinfect tables, toys and equipment after each class.
- If you notice your child mouthing a toy, please put it in the designated bin when they are done playing with it so it can be sanitized.

ILLNESS

- Parents/caregivers and children should stay home when sick so as not to spread the illness to other families. This includes staying home if there has been a fever, diarrhea, or vomiting in the past 24 hours.
- In order to provide a healthy environment for everyone, you will be asked to leave if your child appears ill.
- Notify the early childhood staff if your child has a communicable disease (such as Coronavirus/COVID-19, whooping cough, measles, mumps, chicken pox, strep throat, hand, foot and mouth disease, etc.) and has exposed other children.



Scan the code for the full **My Child Well Enough To Go To School** policy

IMMUNIZATION RECORD

- Minnesota law requires that families provide an immunization record for every child enrolled in ECFE classes or file a legal medical or conscientious exemption.
- A link to download the immunization form is sent with every ECFE class registration confirmation.

SAFETY DRILLS

- As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety, fire, tornado, and lockdown drills are practiced throughout the year.
- When safety drills are conducted, parents/caregivers are expected to participate. If you are in a building during a drill, follow the instructions of early childhood or building staff.

TOILETING

- Parents/caregivers are responsible for changing their child's diaper or for taking them to the bathroom. A good time to do this is before leaving for discussion time.
- Please bring your own changing supplies. There is spray disinfectant to wash the changing table before and after using it. Please use the safety strap while changing your child's diaper.
- Wash your hands and your child's hands before returning to the classroom.



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OTHER ECFE OPPORTUNITIES

EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Anoka-Hennepin Schools offers FREE Early Childhood Screening for children ages 3 to 5 years old. Early Childhood Screening is a simple check of how your child is growing, developing and learning.

☎ 763-433-4910

✉ earlychildhoodscreening@ahschools.us



Scan the code for Early Childhood Screening

HOME VISITING

The Home Visiting program offers information, ideas, and skills to support parents and caregivers of children ages birth to kindergarten. This service is offered at no cost through Anoka-Hennepin Schools Early Learning Programs.

☎ 763-506-1545

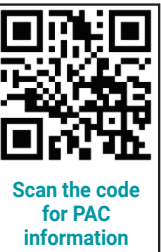


Scan the code for Home Visiting information

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) provides input and support to the ECFE and the Anoka-Hennepin Schools Preschool programs. Attending Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings is a great way to learn more about school district programs and make personal connections with other families. All are welcome.

☎ 763-506-6171



Scan the code for PAC information

PLAYTIME

Anoka-Hennepin Schools Early Childhood Family Education offers Playtime classes for children birth up to kindergarten. Playtime includes art exploration, books, circle time and active play. Playtime helps enhance small and large motor skills, self-esteem and social skills. Registration is required.



Scan the code to register for Playtime online

PRE-K TO GRADE 3 PARENTING EDUCATION AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Anoka-Hennepin Schools Pre-K to Grade 3 offers classes, workshops and parent resources for families with children ages preschool through early elementary years.

Parenting education and family engagement can:

- Connect families with resources at their child's school.
- Provide information and support to families through family events, parenting workshops and one-on-one support as needed.
- Support schools and families in working together to help students be successful in school and at home.

✉ prekto3@ahschools.us



Scan the code to learn more about Pre-K to Grade 3