



Holly Springs Academy

Please initial by each statement and then sign at the bottom of the page.

_____ I have read the North Carolina Childcare Law and Rules and I understand my rights as a parent.

_____ I hereby grant permission for my child _____ to use all of the play equipment and participate in all of the activities at Holly Springs Academy.

_____ I hereby grant permission for my child _____ to go outside of fence areas for nature walks, fire drills, and extra-curricular activities.

_____ I hereby grant permission for my child _____ to be photographed or videoed to use in special occasions, projects, decoration, and my child's portfolio.

Parent Signature

(Date)

The following requirements apply to both centers and homes.

Transportation

Child care centers or family child care homes providing transportation for children must meet all motor vehicle laws, including inspection, insurance, license, and restraint requirements. Children may never be left alone in a vehicle and child-staff ratio must be maintained.

Records

Centers and homes must keep accurate records such as children's attendance, immunizations, and emergency phone numbers. A record of monthly fire drills practiced with safe evacuation of children must also be maintained. A safe sleep policy must be developed and shared with parents if children younger than 12 months are in care.

Discipline

Each program must have a written policy on discipline, must discuss it with parents, and must give parents a copy when the child is enrolled. Changes in discipline policy must be shared with parents in writing before going into effect. Corporal punishment (spanking, slapping, or other physical discipline) is prohibited in all family child care homes and centers. Religious-sponsored programs which notify the Division of Child Development that corporal punishment is part of their religious training are exempt from that part of the law.

Parental Rights

- Parents have the right to enter a family child care home or center at any time while their child is present.
- Parents have the right to see the license displayed in a prominent place.
- Parents have the right to know how their child will be disciplined.

The law and rules are developed to establish minimum requirements. Most parents would like more than minimum care. Child care resource and referral agencies can provide help in choosing quality care. Check the telephone directory or talk with a child care provider to see if there is a child care resource and referral agency in your community. For more information visit the Resources in Child Care website at: www.ncchildcare.net. For more information on the law and rules, contact the Division of Child Development at 919-662-4499 or 1-800-859-0829, or visit our homepage at: <http://www.ncchildcare.net>.

Reviewing Files

A public file is maintained in the Division's main office in Raleigh for every center or family child care home. These files can be

- viewed during work hours;
- requested via the Division's web site at www.ncchildcare.net;
- or,
- requested by contacting the Division at 1-800-859-0829.

How to Report a Problem

North Carolina law requires staff from the Division of Child Development to investigate a licensed family child care home or child care center when there has been a complaint. Child care providers who violate the law or rules may be fined up to \$1,000 and may have their licenses suspended or revoked. If you believe that a child care provider fails to meet the requirements described in this pamphlet, or if you have questions, please call the Division of Child Development at 919-662-4499 or 1-800-859-0829.

Child Abuse or Neglect

Abuse occurs when a parent or caregiver injures or allows another to injure a child physically or emotionally. Abuse may also occur when a parent or caregiver puts a child at risk of serious injury or allows another to put a child at risk of serious injury. Neglect occurs when a child does not receive proper care, supervision, or discipline, or when a child is abandoned. **North Carolina law requires any person who suspects child abuse or neglect to report the case to the county department of social services.** In addition, any person can call the Division of Child Development at 919-662-4499 or 1-800-859-0829 and make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect in a child care operation. Reports can be made anonymously. A person cannot be held liable for a report made in good faith. The operator of the program must notify parents of children currently enrolled in writing of the substantiation of any abuse/neglect complaint or the issuance of any administrative action against the child care facility.

North Carolina Child Care Law and Rules

Division of Child Development
North Carolina Department of
Health and Human Services
319 Chapanoke Road
Raleigh, NC 27603

May 2009



The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or provision of services.

2,000 copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$179.64 or \$0.09 per copy.

Summary:

What Is Child Care?

The law defines child care as:

- three or more unrelated children under 13 years of age
- receiving care from a non-relative
- on a regular basis, of at least once a week
- for more than four hours per day but less than 24 hours.

It is only when all of these conditions exist that regulation is required. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for regulating child care. This is done through the Division of Child Development. The purpose of regulation is to protect the well-being of children while they are away from their parents. The law defining child care is in the North Carolina General Statutes, Article 7, Chapter 110.

The North Carolina Child Care Commission is responsible for adopting rules to carry out the law. Some counties and cities in North Carolina also have local zoning requirements for child care programs.

Star Rated Licenses

Centers and homes that are meeting the minimum licensing requirements will receive a one star license. Programs that choose to voluntarily meet higher standards can apply for a two through five star license. The number of stars a program earns is based upon the education levels their staff meet and the program standards met by the program.

Family Child Care Homes

A family child care home is licensed to care for five or fewer preschool age children, and can include three additional school-age children. This includes preschoolers living in the home but the provider's own school-age children are not counted (Individuals caring for one or two children are exempt from being licensed.) Licenses are issued to family child care home providers who meet the following requirements:

- Home providers must be 21 years old with at least a high school education or its equivalent, and mentally and emotionally capable of caring for children.
- He or she must undergo a criminal records background check initially, and every three years thereafter.
- All household members over age 15 who are present in family child care homes when children are in care must also undergo a criminal records background check. As of December 2008, criminal records rechecks are done every three years.
- All family child care home providers must have current certification in CPR and first aid and complete an ITS-SIDS training every three years. They also must complete a minimum number of training hours annually.

All family child care homes must meet basic health and safety standards. Providers must maintain verification of children's immunization and health status. They must provide developmentally appropriate toys and activities, as well as nutritious meals and snacks for the children in care.

Child Care Centers

Licensing as a center is required when six or more preschool children are cared for in a residence or when three or more children are in care in a building other than a residence. Religious-sponsored programs are exempt from some of the regulations described below if they choose to meet the standards of the Notice of Compliance rather than the Star Rated License. Programs that operate for less than four consecutive months, such as summer camps, are exempt from licensing. Child care centers may voluntarily meet higher standards and receive a license with a higher rating. Centers will be visited at least annually to make sure they are following the law and to receive technical assistance from child care consultants.

Licensed centers must meet requirements in the following areas.

Staff

The administrator of a child care center must be at least 21, and have at least a North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent. Lead teachers in a child care center must be at least 18 and have at least a North Carolina Early Childhood Credential or its equivalent. If administrators and lead teachers do not meet this requirement, they must begin credential coursework within six months of being hired. Staff younger than 18 years of age must work under the direct supervision of staff 21 years of age or older. All staff must complete a minimum number of training hours including ITS-SIDS training for any caregiver that works with infants 12 months of age or younger, and CPR and first aid training. All staff must also undergo a criminal records background check. As of December 2008, criminal records rechecks are done every three years.

Ratios

Ratios are the number of staff required to supervise a certain number of children. Group size is the maximum number of children in one group. Ratios and group sizes for licensure are shown below and must be posted in each classroom.

Age	Teacher : Child Ratio	Maximum Group Size
0-12 months	1:5	10
12-24 months	1:6	12
2 years old	1:10	20
3 years old	1:15	25
4 years old	1:20	25
School-age	1:25	25

Small centers in a residence that are licensed for six to twelve children may keep up to three additional school-age children, depending on the ages of the other children in care. When the group has children of different ages, staff-child ratios and group size must be met for the youngest child in the group.

Space and Equipment

To meet licensing requirements, there must be at least 25 square feet per child indoors and 75 square feet per child outdoors. Outdoor play space must be fenced. Indoor equipment must be clean, safe, well maintained, and developmentally appropriate. Outdoor equipment and furnishings must be child size, sturdy, and free of hazards that could injure children.

Curriculum

The Division of Child Development does not promote or require any specific curriculum over another unless programs are using curriculum to get a quality point for the star-rated license. Child care programs choose the type of curriculum appropriate for the ages of the children enrolled. Activity plans must be available to parents and must show a balance of active and quiet, and indoor and outdoor activities. Rooms must be arranged to encourage children to explore and use materials on their own.

Health and Safety

Children must be immunized on schedule. Each licensed center must ensure the health and safety of children by sanitizing areas and equipment used by children. Meals and snacks must be nutritious, and children must have portions large enough to satisfy their hunger. Food must be offered at least once every four hours. Local health, building, and fire inspectors visit licensed programs to make sure standards are met. All children must be allowed to play outdoors each day (weather permitting) and must have space and time provided for rest.

Application Date _____

Date of Enrollment _____



Holly Springs Academy

APPLICATION FOR CHILD CARE

To be completed and placed on file prior to enrollment

Name of Child _____ Birth date _____
 _____ (Last) (First) (MI) (Nickname) _____
 Address _____ Zip Code _____

INFORMATION ABOUT THE FAMILY:

Father/Guardian's Name _____ Home Phone _____
 Address _____ Zip Code _____
 Where Employed _____ Business Phone _____
 Cell Phone _____ Email _____
 Mother/Guardian's Name _____ Home Phone _____
 Address _____ Zip Code _____
 Where Employed _____ Business Phone _____
 Cell Phone _____ Email _____
 Insurance Carrier _____ Policy # _____

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD: (Attach separate sheet if more space needed.)

Does your child have any known allergies: No__ Yes__ Explain: _____
 Does your child have any chronic illnesses/conditions: No__ Yes__ Explain: _____

Please give any information concerning your child which will be helpful in his experience in group setting (such as play, eating and sleeping habits, special fears, special likes or dislikes) _____

EMERGENCY CARE INFORMATION:

Name of child's doctor _____ Office Phone _____
 Address _____
 Hospital preference _____ Phone _____

If neither father nor mother (or guardian) can be contacted, call (please list relationship):

Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Alt. _____
 Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Alt. _____

If you cannot call for your child, please give the names of persons to whom the child can be released: _____

I agree that Holly Springs Academy (operator) may authorize the physician of his/her choice to provide emergency care in the event that neither I nor the family physician can be contacted immediately.

(Signature of Parent)

(Date)

I, as the operator, do agree to provide transportation to an appropriate medical resource in the event of emergency. In an emergency situation, other children in the facility will be supervised by a responsible adult. I will not administer any drug or any medication without specific instructions from the physician or the child's parent, guardian, or full-time custodian. Provisions will be made for adequate and appropriate rest and outdoor play.

(Signature of Operator Administrator)

(Date)

released: _____

I agree that Holly Springs Academy (operator) may authorize the physician of his/her choice to provide emergency care in the event that neither I nor the family physician can be contacted immediately.

(Signature of Parent)

(Date)

I, as the operator, do agree to provide transportation to an appropriate medical resource in the event of emergency. In an emergency situation, other children in the facility will be supervised by a responsible adult. I will not administer any drug or any medication without specific instructions from the physician or the child's parent, guardian, or full-time custodian. Provisions will be made for adequate and appropriate rest and outdoor play.

(Signature of Operator Administrator)

(Date)

Children's Medical Report

Name of Child _____ Birthdate _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Address of Parent of Guardian _____

A. Medical History (May be completed by parent)

1. Is child allergic to anything? No___ Yes___ If yes, what? _____

2. Is child currently under a doctor's care? No___ Yes___ If yes, for what reason? _____

3. Is the child on any continuous medication? No___ Yes___ If yes, what? _____

4. Any previous hospitalizations or operations? No___ Yes___ If yes, when and for what? _____

5. Any history of significant previous diseases or recurrent illness? No___ Yes___ ; diabetes No___ Yes___ ;
convulsions No___ Yes___ ; heart trouble No___ Yes___ ; asthma No___ Yes___ .
If others, what/when? _____

6. Does the child have any physical disabilities: No___ Yes___ If yes, please describe: _____

Any mental disabilities? No___ Yes___ If yes, please describe: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____ **Date** _____

B. Physical Examination: This examination must be completed and signed by a licensed physician, his authorized agent currently approved by the N. C. Board of Medical Examiners (or a comparable board from bordering states), a certified nurse practitioner, or a public health nurse meeting DHHS standards for EPSDT program.

Height _____% Weight _____%

Head _____ Eyes _____ Ears _____ Nose _____ Teeth _____ Throat _____

Neck _____ Heart _____ Chest _____ Abd/GU _____ Ext _____

Neurological System _____ Skin _____ Vision _____ Hearing _____

Results of Tuberculin Test, if given: Type _____ date _____ Normal ___ Abnormal ___ followup _____

Developmental Evaluation: delayed _____ age appropriate _____

If delay, note significance and special care needed; _____

Should activities be limited? No___ Yes___ If yes, explain: _____

Any other recommendations: _____

Date of Examination _____

Signature of authorized examiner/title _____ **Phone #** _____

