

GEORGIA ADDENDUM

CADENCE EDUCATION FAMILY HANDBOOK

FEEDING PRACTICES

Infants will be fed baby food, table food, and bottles according to the current Infant Care Plan on file. Times and amounts will be followed as closely as possible. Parents of Infants are required to provide an adequate supply of baby food until such time as the Infant transitions to table food. At that time, we will introduce table foods as written on the Infant Care Plan. It is important that jar food is still available during this transition time so that we may ensure a nutritionally balanced meal. Infants under 12 months old will not be served cow's milk and parents will be required to provide pre-mixed formula, expressed milk or a cow's milk alternative. The Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) does not allow anyone in the school to mix any type of formula. Accommodations for breastfeeding mothers are available upon request. All baby bottles must be plastic and both the bottles and the lids must be labeled with the child's first and last name and date. For the safety of the children, bottles will only be warmed in a crockpot or bottle warmer. All bottles will be sent home at the end of each day.

INFANT CARE

Our Infant Program is truly designed to meet the needs of each individual baby. We recognize that physical, nutritional, emotional, and developmental needs vary greatly and that these needs change quickly as each baby grows and develops. We also recognize that the wishes and beliefs of each parent vary greatly. It is important that parents communicate clearly and consistently with the staff so that all needs and expectations can be met. Parents of Infants are required to provide a complete and accurate Infant Care Plan at the beginning of each calendar month. These plans allow the teachers to feed, change and care for the babies based on specific guidelines provided by the parents and/or physicians. Because babies grow and develop so quickly, Infant Care Plans are required to be updated monthly.

LABELING OF FOOD

The State of Georgia requires that all sippy cups, bottles and jarred food provided by parents/guardians be labeled each day with first and last name and the date.

*Cadence Education requires that children's bottles are labeled with first and last name, date, and contents.

NUTRITION

A nutritious breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack are prepared at the school and served daily. All menus meet and exceed USDA guidelines and are posted weekly. Much time has gone into the research of our menus to ensure that our meals are not only healthy and USDA approved, but that they are child-friendly and widely accepted by the children enrolled. Our menus are reviewed annually. The weekly menus are posted in the lobby. Snacks and lunch are provided for all children at no additional charge. You may check your child's classroom schedule for mealtimes as these will be the only times that meals are served. Please be sure your child is at school for meals or that they have eaten before they arrive. Children are encouraged to enjoy mealtimes as a positive social experience, while establishing healthy nutritional patterns and proper dining habits. For the health and safety of all of the children, food from home is not permitted except for special events, with the permission of the Director, or pursuant to a doctor's note. Please do not send extra snacks or beverages with your child or in their school bag. Cow's milk is only served to children over 12 months of age. Whole milk is served to children 12-24 months of age and children over 24 months of age are served 1% milk.

POSTED NOTICES

A copy of our most recent license, a copy of Georgia licensing rules, and our latest licensing report are available in our front lobby and upon request. Further, a copy of the most recent communicable disease chart, statement of parental access, names of persons in charge, emergency plans for severe weather and fire, and statement for visitors is also present in our front lobby.

SLEEP SACKS

Sleepers, sleep sacks and wearable blankets that fit according to the commercial manufacturer's guidelines and will not slide up around the infant's face may be used when necessary for the comfort of the sleeping infant, however, swaddling shall not be used unless the Center has been provided a physician's written statement authorizing its use for a particular infant that includes instructions and a time frame for swaddling the infant.

REPORTING OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Parents will receive written posted notification if a communicable disease is introduced into the school. Parents MUST notify the school immediately if their child contracts a communicable disease. Children with a communicable disease cannot attend school and will not be re-admitted without written permission from a physician. Sunbrook Academy refers to the Department of Resources' Current Communicable Disease chart for exclusion of sick children from the school and will follow the Department's recommended procedures. The Current Communicable Disease chart is posted in the lobby.