

WELCOME TO THE INFANT ROOM

Hello, and welcome to the Infant Room!

OUR GOAL is to provide a safe, loving and stimulating environment in which babies can grow and develop at their own rate.

We stimulate cognitive growth through language experiences by encouraging communication with verbal interaction, responding to babbling, talking during care routines, singing, and providing age-appropriate toys. Babies will have plenty of opportunities to explore their environment safely.

Social and emotional development is a top priority. A primary caregiver will help your infant form secure attachments and trust their needs will be met. While a team of trained professionals, overseen by a Lead Teacher, will care for your baby, one caregiver will be primarily responsible for daily care. More details will be provided at enrollment.

Caregivers teach sharing and caring through play, feeding, and comfort. They respect each child's growth and model appropriate behavior. Physical development is supported by allowing safe movement and providing age-appropriate play equipment. Cribs are for sleeping, while infant seats, blankets, and mats encourage interaction. Swings and exercisers are used occasionally for short periods.

Each baby follows their own eating, sleeping, and playing schedule, as well as any parent requests. Diapers are changed as needed. The Center provides feeding dishes, spoons, and bibs. Parents should bring labeled food and bottles, with formula premixed. We encourage parents to bring a sippy cup when their child approaches one year old. For babies on baby food, please provide a weekly supply (**labeled**) and replenish as needed. When first enrolling, please provide a written schedule for your child's eating, sleeping, and formula amounts.

When changes occur, please leave us written notes so that all the Infant staff is informed. The Infant Room does not provide regular snacks, but as babies are developing their fine motor skills, we do give them dry cereal as practice. Teething biscuits and crackers are sometimes used with older babies. Infant Room staff are scheduled to cover the entire day, so you can drop off and pick up your baby in his or her own room.

Each baby has their own crib, except for part-time babies who may share. In that case, sheets, cribs, mattresses, and rails are disinfected after each use. During winter, parents should bring a marked sleep sack or light crib blanket, which should be washed weekly (**FRIDAYS**). Babies may have different sleep patterns at the center, with some sleeping well and others sleeping less. A sound machine is used to reduce noise disruption, and we'll do our best to follow your baby's sleep schedule.

Caregivers keep a daily journal of eating and sleeping for parents to check, and someone is here daily to talk with you about your child's day. If more information is needed, please let us know and we will try to help. **Again, please make special requests in writing via email to the office.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to talk with us. We are looking forward to caring for your baby and watching him or her grow. Your whole family is important to us. We want to work as a team to make this first year as special as it can be!

Sincerely,
The Infant Team

