

Thank you for your interest in The Early School. We hope the enclosed information will be helpful.

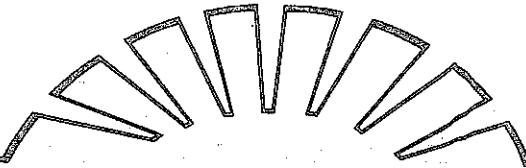
The Early School's enrollment is designed to help families make an informed decision about registering at the school. You have already completed the first step by requesting information. If you have any questions regarding this information, please call Frances Dote at the school between 9:00 a.m. and noon,

The next step is to call for an appointment to visit the school. Once you have visited the school you will be given an application form. When we have received the completed form, along with a \$60 non-refundable fee, you will be placed on the wait list. Please call 955-5881 to schedule an appointment.

When you visit the school, you will be given a tour and a staff member will be available to answer questions as well as tell you more about our philosophy, parent involvement, ratios, teacher qualifications, etc.

Children may enter at any time there is an opening. September and June are the months in which openings are most likely. Occasionally openings occur mid-year.

We encourage families to look at several preschools before making a decision. We are glad you chose to consider The Early School. Again, thank you for your interest. We hope to hear from you soon.



ABOUT THE EARLY SCHOOL

The Early School is a private, nonprofit independent school accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in March 1990 and has provided early childhood education and care services to the families of young children in Honolulu since 1973.

We are proud of our tradition as a vital community that has its roots in a love for children and a deep caring for family. The Early School nurtures the growth of genuinely inquisitive and socially aware children, from 18 months through 5 years of age.

Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff fulfill the academic and experience requirements of the Department of Human Services (DHS) which licenses TES programs. In addition, teachers and administrators participate annually in the national (NAEYC) and local (HAEYC) conferences thereby continuing their early childhood education. Staff must demonstrate the personal qualities of warmth, openness and a genuine respect for children.

Faculty and staff are among the leaders in Hawaii's early childhood community--training teachers, serving as consultants and providing leadership in professional organizations.

Programs for Children

The Early School offers two programs for young children:

The Young Children's Program (YCP) accommodates twenty 18 through 36-month-olds in a small setting which provided a comfortable stepping stone between the intimacy of a home and the formality of a school. Small group sizes and low ratios (1:5) allow children to explore their environment and learn through creative and discovery play.

In the Preschool Program, low teacher-child ratios (1:7 or 1:8) enable the staff to work with 3 through 5-year old both individually and in small groups as the children continue to develop confidence in themselves as learners. Beginning skills in math, reading, writing, science, social studies, nutrition and the arts are integrated parts of the daily curriculum. Physical, social and communication skills are encouraged as children work and play cooperatively within their small groups.

Family Participation

The Early School offers families a wide range of opportunities for participation. Each parent is a member of The Early School's corporation and participates in the election of the Board of Directors. Half of the directors are parents representing the different programs.

Parents are invited into classrooms to share skills and interests. They may also serve as classroom assistants or do other necessary jobs in exchange for a tuition reduction. Social and educational events are held at least once a month. Examples of these events include workshops on parenting topics, informational meetings on choosing primary schools, picnics, campouts and theme parties.

What Parents Have Said About The Early School

"The Early School is a learning environment concerned with the whole person. I don't know of too many other schools that make parents feel so welcome and important."

"Through The Early School we learned that we really wanted to be involved in our children's education. When we were growing up, my parents were not aware of what we were being taught. So it was through contact with The Early School that I learned I could be involved."

"The Early School is a place where children teachers and parents work together for the good of the child in a spirit of tolerance, understanding and love."

THE EARLY SCHOOL YOUNG CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

For Children 18 months - 3 years old

Vital Statistics

Operating Hours: 7:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Tuition: \$1,465 per month
Tuition Assistance: Application upon request
Snack: Provided by the school - morning and afternoon
Lunch: Provided by the family

Children need not be toilet trained.

Closings: State and federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, two weeks at Christmas, one week in the Spring, and the last week in August. (August closing is for staff workshop; limited child care is provided at cost during Christmas and Spring closings).

Why a Special Program for Toddlers?

Toddlers have special needs not currently met in many child care settings. While day care facilities are allowed to accept these young children, the children themselves are often not ready for the complexity and stimulation of a large day care center. They are often not physically mature enough to meet the requirement of being toilet-trained, but many are ready for the challenges and experiences beyond what is provided in family day care homes.

The Program

Group Size: 10 - Green Room; 10 - Blue Room
Teacher-Child Ratio: 1:5
Staff: 5 Teachers, 2 Assistants. Teachers meet or exceed DHS education requirements.
Environment: A large room with lanai and yard area.
Curriculum: Based upon the developmental needs of young children (physical, social, emotional, creative, language and intellectual)

THE EARLY SCHOOL PRESCHOOL

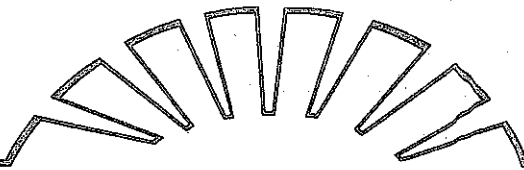
For Children 3 - 6 years old

Vital Statistics

Operating Hours: 7:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Tuition: \$1,240 per month
Tuition Assistance: Application upon request
Snack: Provided by the school-morning and afternoon
Lunch: Provided by the family
Closings: State and federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, two weeks at Christmas, one week in the Spring, and the last week in August. (August closing is for staff workshop; limited child care is provided at cost during Christmas and Spring closings).

The Program

Group Size: 21 - Sky Room; 24 - Lokahi Room
Teacher-Child Ratio: 1:7 Sky Room; 1:8 Lokahi Room
Staff: 9 Teachers, 3 Assistants. Teachers meet or exceed DHS education requirements. Assistants usually are students at the University of Hawaii or Honolulu Community College.
Environment: Two large rooms and a lanai arranged in learning centers; Out-side play in the yards surrounding the school and a large playground adjacent to the school building.
Curriculum: Based on the developmental needs of children in physical, intellectual, social, emotional, creative and language areas. Emphasis is on conflict resolution, exploring, experiencing and building trusting relationships between children and adults.



MORE IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Criteria for Accepting Children

The Early School welcomes all families who wish to enroll their children on a first come first serve basis after the following criteria have been met:

For the Preschool, children must be fully toilet trained (as defined by the staff) at least one month prior to entry.

The "population mix" will be considered, e.g. the ratio of girls to boys in the school and the ages of the children and to the extent possible, programs will be balanced. Families are encouraged to spend time at The Early School to help their children make the transition and should be willing to send their children for partial days at first, gradually working up to the full day. To help children with the transition to school, the staff requires that all new children be picked up by lunch time on their first day and before 2:30 p.m. on their second day. Parents must ask the Preschool and YCP Afternoon Coordinator's about appropriate pick up time for the remainder of the first week.

It is The Early School's policy to adhere to the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and to accept children with disabilities who can be reasonably accommodated. The staff will make the final decision of acceptance based on the following guidelines:

- No more than one child with special needs in each classroom (Young Children's Program, Preschool Sky Room and Lokahi Room); and

- The availability of special help for children who, in the staff's judgment, require assistance for them to function optimally in the school environment.