



Mary Sutton-Smith, ISI Caring Center for Children and Parents

Child Care in the Campus Community

Introduction

For parents working at the University, the Penn Women's Center has compiled an informal directory by asking all of the known child care centers in the University neighborhood to fill out a questionnaire. The following pages summarize the responses of twelve centers, and give a checklist of things to look for as you visit and compare. The map on page IV will help you locate the centers.

The Women's Center is not in a position to recommend or guarantee any center, and we urge all parents to investigate thoroughly and select carefully.

The University proper sponsors only one facility—the Penn Children's Center (right) affiliated with the School of Social Work. In addition, the Infant Friendship Center (page II) has an affiliation for teaching purposes with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Though not all centers gave comparable answers on their questionnaires, each did describe its general thrust and its licensing, which indicates substantial compliance with regulations pertaining to health and safety, qualifications of staff, equipment and program content. The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (D.P.W.) Bureau of Child Development licenses all facilities which provide child care. In this state a day care center is defined as a facility in which care is provided for seven or more children at any one time, in child care areas not being used as a family residence. The operator must receive authorization from the D.P.W., which inspects, evaluates and licenses these facilities.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, State Board of Private Academic Schools licenses private schools. Some facilities listed here have dual licensure, including Drexel Early Childhood Center, Little Friends Learning Center and University City Montessori School. In this directory, two parent cooperative nursery schools are not licensed by either agency—St. Mary's Coop Nursery School and Tabernacle Nursery School, where parents provide some of the staffing.

Compiling this type of directory is a rolling process, so any list may be out of date by the time it becomes a reality. The Women's Center will keep updating the file available for examination at our Houston Hall office. Whether you use one of these centers or another form of child care (such as a babysitter in your own home), we would like your response to the brief questionnaire at the end.

Penn Children's Center

3905 Spruce Street (rear), 898-5268 or 898-5282

Mailing address: 3701 Locust Walk/C3

Director: Pamela F. Johnson

Multi-ethnic, family-oriented pre-school.

Toddlers: 2½-3½ years, max. group size 19, staff/child ratio 1:5.

Preschoolers: 3½-4½ years, max. groups size 16, staff/child ratio 1:7.

Kindergarten: 4½-5½ years, max. group size 13, staff/child ratio 1:10.

Full capacity: 48. Present enrollment: 42.

Hot meals: not provided, snacks provided.

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:45 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed Labor Day, Thanksgiving and day after, Christmas eve to day after New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July).

Application fee: \$10. Full-time fees: toddlers \$61/wk., preschoolers \$61/wk., kindergarten \$61/wk. Part-time fees: toddlers \$39/wk., preschoolers \$39/wk., kindergarten \$39/wk. Sibling Discount: yes, \$113./wk. for 2 children full-time, \$67/wk. for 2 children part-time; no scholarships, parking available.

Licensed: Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare. Affiliation: Penn's Graduate School of Social Work; non-profit.

Center's objective and philosophy: multi-cultural, family-centered program, eclectic focus, serving West Phila. and the broader Phila. community.

Drexel Early Childhood Center

227 N. 34th Street, 895-2424

Director: Mrs. Lois Baker, assoc. dir. Mrs. Ronnie Levy.

Open classroom: learning centers, educational experiences, technology and computers, individual and group experiences.

Preschoolers: 3-4 year olds, max. group size 30, staff/child ratio 1:8.

Kindergarten: 5 year olds, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:8.

Full Capacity: presently at capacity (45).

Hot meals: breakfast and lunch, afternoon snack also provided.

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed 14 holidays).

Application fee: none. *Full-time fees:* preschoolers and kindergarten \$61/wk. No sibling discount, no scholarships, no parking except drop-off and pick-up zone outside center and on street parking.

Licensed: State Board of Private Academic Schools and Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare; non-profit. Affiliation: operated by Drexel University, receives funding from Dept. of Public Welfare (DPW).

Center's objective and philosophy: to provide an environment where a child has the opportunity to grow socially, intellectually, emotionally and physically under the direction of qualified staff.

The Infant Friendship Center

4207 Spruce Street, 386-5097

Director: Bonnie Raines.

Mixed-age groups: three months to three years, three-five year old pre-school (starting September 1983).

Infants/toddlers: 3-36 months, max. group size 14, staff/child ratio 1:3 infants, 1:4 toddlers.

Preschoolers: 3-5 year olds, max. group size 10, staff/child ratio 1:6.

Full capacity: 55. Present enrollment: 45.

Hot meals: not provided, snacks not provided.

Hours: 7:45 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed the week after Christmas).

Application fee: \$15. *Full-time fees:* infants \$112/wk., toddlers \$92/wk., preschoolers \$78/wk. *Part-time fees:* infants \$77/wk., toddlers \$72/wk., preschoolers \$58/wk. *Sibling discount:* 1/3 off fees, scholarships available pending funding. Parking available.

Licensed: Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare; Affiliation: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; non-profit.

Center's objective and philosophy: quality child care with emphasis on nurturing each child's needs and development; parent involvement in all aspects of program.



Mary Sutton-Smith, ISI Caring Center

The ISI Caring Center for Children and Parents

3501 Filbert Street, 386-8245

Director: Susan F. Silverstein.

Developmental child care.

Infants: 6 weeks-18 months, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.

Toddlers: 18-36 months, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5.

Preschoolers: 3-5 years, max. group size 16, staff/child ratio 1:8.

Kindergarten: 5-6 year-olds, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:12.

Full capacity: 120. Present enrollment: 80.

Hot meals: breakfast and lunch, snacks provided.

Hours: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. (soon, 24 hrs.), Monday-Friday.

Application fee: \$10. *Full-time fees:* infants \$108/wk., toddlers \$108/wk., preschoolers 78/wk., kindergarten \$78/wk. *Part-time fees:* a wide variety of schedules is available, i.e., 2 full days (infant and toddler only) and 5 part days; call the center to inquire about specific fees. *Sibling discount:* 7 percent for two or more children in the same family enrolled simultaneously. *Scholarships:* no, however, there is a community scholarship and ISI employees receive a subsidy. Parking available. MasterCard or Visa accepted.

Licensed: Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare, kindergarten license in progress. Affiliation: subsidiary of the Institute for Scientific Information; for profit.

Center's objective and philosophy: developmentally oriented curriculum in a nurturant, individualized environment which emphasizes both the importance of the relationship between the caregiver and the child and the importance of meeting parents' needs. The name is also part of the philosophy.

**Little Friends Learning Center**

4101 Chestnut Street, 387-0665

Director: Karen Ambruso.

Nursery/kindergarten program with before and after class day care. Attempting to accept infants/toddlers this summer.

Infants: (not yet available) 9-18 months, max. group size 8, staff/child ratio 1:4.

Toddlers: (not yet available) 18-36 months, max. group size 10, staff/child ratio 1:5.

Preschoolers: 3 years 7 months-5 years, max. size 9, staff/child ratio 1:9.

Kindergarten: 4 years 7 months-6 years, max. group size 9, staff/child ratio 1:9.

Full capacity: presently at capacity (15).

Hot meals: not provided, snacks provided.

Hours: 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed New Years, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas).

Application fee: none. *Full-time fees:* infants \$55/wk., toddlers \$55/wk., preschoolers \$45/wk., kindergarten \$45/wk. *Part-time fees:* infants \$30/wk., toddlers \$30/wk., preschoolers \$25/wk., kindergarten \$25/wk. *Sibling discount:* no, scholarships not available. Parking not available.

Licensed: State Board of Private Academic Schools and Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare. Affiliation: none; for profit.

Center's objective and philosophy: to provide educational day care to infants/toddlers and prepare preschoolers for private primary education.

Nana Bear's Love-N-Care Day Care Plus

36 North 52nd Street, 747-8866

Directors: Ralinda Golback, Anna Grant.

Day care: We follow the regulations for Penna. Day Care Centers. The numbers for each age group, size, etc., is flexible and depends upon the guidelines.

Full capacity: presently at capacity (19).

Hot meals: breakfast, 2 snacks provided.

Hours: 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas eve until day after New Year's Day).

Application Fee: \$35. *Full-time fees:* toddlers \$35/wk., preschoolers \$35/wk., kindergarten \$35/wk. *Part-time fees:* toddlers \$20/wk., preschoolers \$20/wk., kindergarten \$20/wk. *Sibling discount:* no scholarships, no parking.

Licensed: Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare. Affiliation: none; for profit.

Center's objective and philosophy: to provide children with a safe and educationally stimulating atmosphere in which to grow and discover their own potentials.



Drexel Early Childhood Center

The Parent Infant Center

4205 Spruce Street, 898-4180

Director: Marni Sweet.

Infants/Toddlers: 3 months-2½ years, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:3.*Preschoolers:* 2½-5 years, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:5.*Full capacity:* 50. Present enrollment: 46.*Hot meals:* not provided, snacks provided.*Hours:* 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and day after).*Application fee:* \$192; deposit refunded at end of stay. *Full-time fees:* infants/toddlers up to 2 years 9 months \$96/wk., preschoolers \$69/wk. *Part-time fees:* infants/toddlers (3 days) \$65/wk., preschoolers (3 days) \$45/wk. *Sibling Discount:* if two in younger group one pays older group fee. Scholarship: no, however, 3 funded spaces under Urban League 4Ps program.*Licensed:* Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare. *Affiliation:* none; non-profit.*Center's objective and philosophy:* parent-operated center values family involvement; curriculum offers wide variety of activities in a safe and loving family-like setting; large outdoor play space.**St. Mary's Coop Nursery School**

3916 Locust Walk, 222-8556

Mailing address: 3601 Locust Walk/C8

Director: Roberto Reggio.

*Family style nursery:**Preschoolers:* 2-5 years, max. group size 40, staff/child ratio 1:6.*Full capacity:* 40. Present enrollment: 39.*Hot meals:* not provided, snacks provided.*Hours:* 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed July and August).*Application fee:* \$5. *Full-time fees:* Preschoolers \$200/month. *Part-time fees:* preschoolers \$100/month. *Sibling discount:* yes, scholarships available, parking available.*Licensed:* none. *Affiliation:* none; non-profit.**St. Paul Community Day Care**

3832 Haverford Avenue, 386-9319

Director: Mrs. Emma Williams.

*Day care with a preschool curriculum, akin to Get-Set programs.**Toddlers:* 2½-3 years, max. group size 3, staff/child ratio 1:3.*Preschoolers:* 3-5 years, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:5.*Kindergarten:* 6 years, max. group size included in preschool amt., staff/child ratio 1:5.*Full capacity:* 15. Present enrollment: 7.*Hot meals:* provided, snacks provided.*Hours:* 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. (closed New Year's Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas eve and Day).*Application fee:* \$5. *Full-time fees:* toddlers \$40/wk., preschoolers and kindergarten \$35/wk. *Part-time fees:* Toddlers \$8/day, preschoolers and kindergarten \$7/day. *Sibling discount:* yes, 12 percent, scholarships available, contingent upon grant availability and amount; parking available.*Licensed:* Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare. *Affiliation:* none; non-profit.*Center's objective and philosophy:* help each preschooler develop to his/her fullest potential through individualized teaching techniques geared to each child.**Tabernacle Nursery School**

3700 Chestnut Street, 386-4100

Director: Linda Hecht.

*Parent cooperative nursery school with after-school program.**Toddlers:* 18 months-2 years 7 months, max. group size 12, staff/child ratio 1:4.*Preschoolers:* 2 years 7 months-5 years, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5-1:7.*Full capacity:* 42. Present enrollment: 35.*Hot meals:* not provided, snacks provided.*Hours:* 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed July and August, Christmas 2 weeks, Easter week, up to five one-day holidays).*Application fee:* none. *Full-time fees:* toddlers \$365/month, preschoolers \$295/month. *Part-time fees:* toddlers \$150/month, preschoolers \$100/month 5 mornings/week; toddlers \$90/month 3 mornings/week. *Sibling discount:* yes, \$70 (5 days/week), \$42.50 (3 days/week). Scholarships available, half scholarship for the morning program; parking not available.*Licensed:* none. *Affiliation:* a non-sectarian affiliate of the Tabernacle Church; non-profit.*Center's objective and philosophy:* warm, loving atmosphere where children explore and learn in a rich educational environment.**University City Montessori School**

N.W. corner 51st and Spruce Streets, 474-1599

Director: Bradley Sheeks.

*Montessori school, licensed by the State as a private academic school and as a child care center.**Infants:* 5-18 months, max. group size 6, staff/child ratio 1:3.*Toddlers:* 18-30 months, max. group size 15, staff/child ratio 1:5.*Preschoolers:* 30 months-5 years, max. group size 40 (includes kindergarten), staff/child ratio 1:10.*Kindergarten:* 5-6 years, staff/child ratio 1:10.*Full capacity:* 61. Present enrollment: 52.*Hot meals:* not provided, snacks provided.*Hours:* 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed on National holidays).*Application fee:* \$25. *Full time fees:* infants \$385/month, toddlers \$365/month, preschoolers and kindergarten \$290/month. *Part-time fees:* infants \$290/month, toddlers \$265/month, preschoolers and kindergarten \$225/month (5 half days/week). *Sibling discount:* no, scholarships available, subcontract for Title XX subsidy with Urban League; parking available on street.*Licensed:* State Board of Private Academic Schools and Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare. *Affiliation:* none; private non-profit corporation.*Center's objective and philosophy:* commitment to a happy, healthy family life; high quality day care program can contribute to the peace of mind of the parents as well as the growth and development of the child.**University City New School**

S. W. corner 42nd and Locust Streets, 382-3313

Director: Penny Colgan-Davis.

*Kindergarten through sixth grade, private elementary school, before school and after school programs.**Kindergarten:* 4 1/2-6 years, max. group size 20, staff/child ratio 1:10.*Full capacity:* presently at capacity (20).*Hot meals:* not provided, snacks provided after school.*Hours:* 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday (closed school holidays and summer vacation).*Summer Day Camp:* 6/27-8/19 for 2 1/2-12 years.*Application fee:* \$10. *Full time fees:* kindergarten \$2400 per academic year tuition. *Sibling discount:* no, scholarships available on need basis, awarded in May; parking not available.*Licensed:* Pa. Dept. of Education. *Affiliation:* none; non-profit.*Center's objective and philosophy:* independent school, individualized instruction, challenging academic environment, low student/teacher ratio, integrated student body.

Pat Ward Williams, University City New School

A Child Care Checklist

Day care facilities vary considerably in terms of both their provisions and objectives. Some practical considerations that can be observed and evaluated by parents appear below.

Physical Space

- nutritious meals/healthful snacks
- heat/light/ventilation levels
- adequate/accessible toilets
- storage space/individual cubbies
- isolation area for sick child
- adequate cots/cribs
- toys/furniture/equipment
- age-appropriate materials
- attractive/comfortable decor
- adequate space/running & climbing
- open & covered outdoor space
- contiguous indoor/outdoor space

Safety/Health

Precautions:

- first aid supplies
- emergency phone numbers
- locked up poisons
- prohibited smoking
- fire exits/drill procedures
- fire extinguishers
- smoke detectors
- capped electrical outlets
- covered radiators/heaters
- secured upper story windows
- stable furniture units

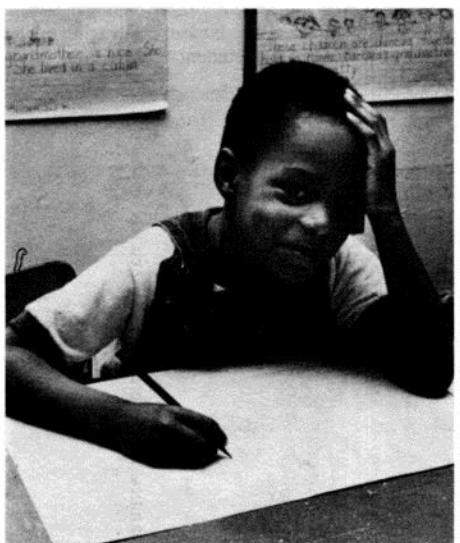
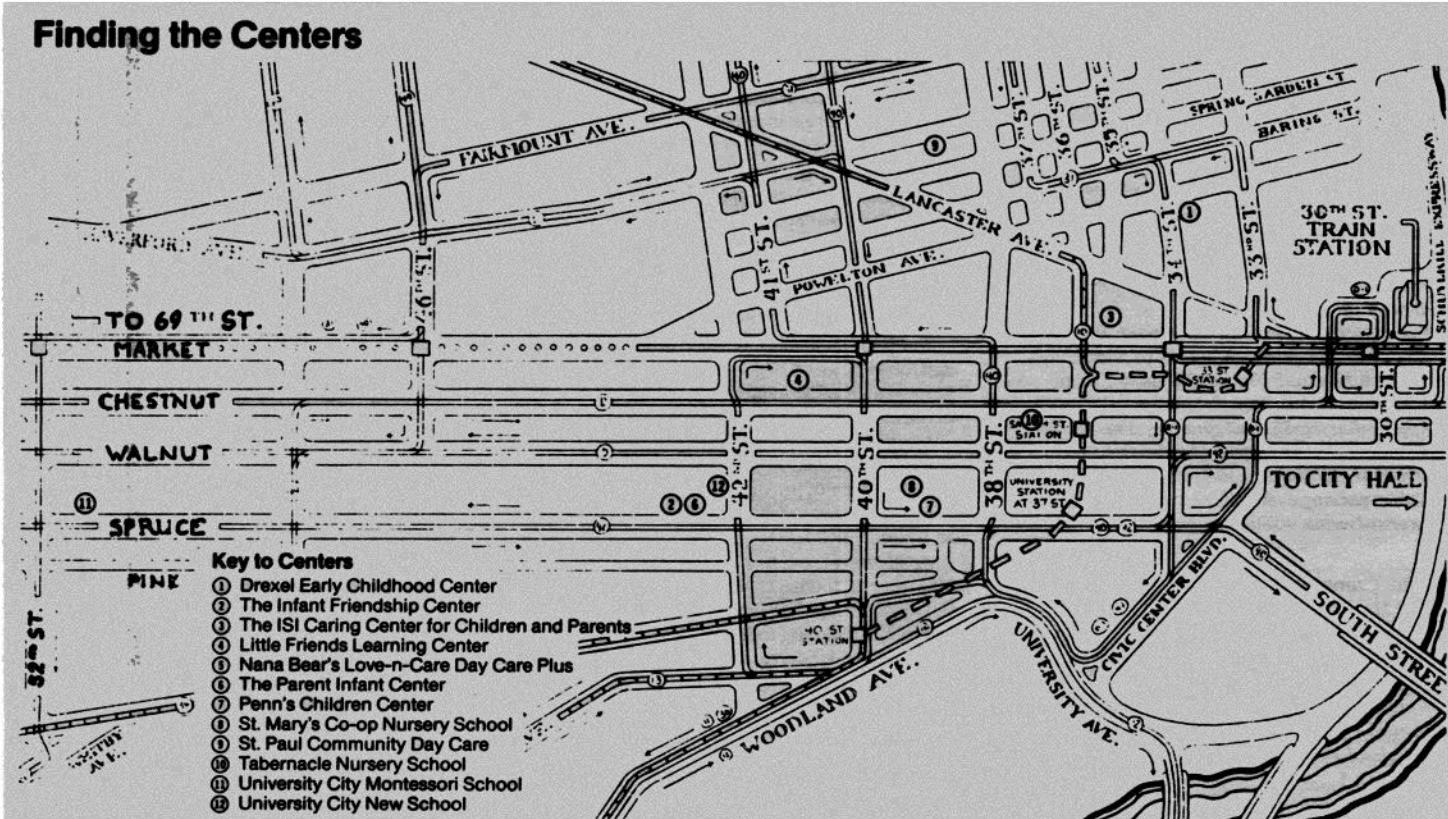
Cleanliness:

- floors
- eating areas
- bathrooms
- play areas

Psychological Space

- dependable/consistent care
- adult always present
- adult/child ratios
- affectional/communication levels
- caretakers experienced or trained
- kindly tone/not punitive
- sensible toilet training
- referral service (hearing/vision screening)
- quiet play/active play
- playing alone/with others
- small groups
- socialization methods
- range/choice of activities
- happy children/purposeful activity
- equal access/boys & girls
- parent/staff conferences
- open parental visiting

Finding the Centers



Child Care Questionnaire

How many children are there in your home/family in each of the following age groups?

Under 18 months 18-36 months 3-5 years 5-6 years 6-12 years

How are you related to the children? Mother Father Grandparent Other

Are you now employed? Full-time Part-time No

Are you a student? Full-time Part-time No

While you are at work or at school who cares for your children? (Check one or more)

Family member living with you Family member not living with you

Child care center near home Child care center near work (school)

Babysitter in his/her home Babysitter in your home

Center listed in this supplement Other

What is your weekly expense for child care per child? Total

What factors do you consider most important in selecting child care arrangements?

Additional comments/concerns about child care:

Please complete this questionnaire and send to the Penn Women's Center, Houston Hall/CM, 3417 Spruce Street, Phila., PA 19104.