

A Great Place to Learn!



EARLY CHILDHOOD

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Smithville R-II School District

**Smithville
Early
Childhood
Center**

*"A Tradition of
Excellence"*

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The Smithville R-II Early Childhood program enhances optimal student functioning, improves quality of life, and increases school readiness skills in our youngest learners. The Smithville R-II School District offers Title I Preschool, Early Childhood Special Education and Parents as Teachers.

Our integrated Title I and Early Childhood Special Education Program offers a full continuum of comprehensive integrated services for children ages 3 through 5 years of age. Students that qualify for special education receive specialized educational programming. Services range from specialized instruction, speech/language therapy, physical therapy and/or occupational therapy and services. A wide continuum of service delivery models also are available to children who qualify. Services can be delivered in an integrated special education preschool setting, a community preschool setting or by appointment at our center. The Smithville Early Childhood Center offers a half-day (morning or afternoon) program in session Monday through Thursday. For students not previously found eligible, participation in one of our monthly screening opportunities is required to be considered for both programs. Please call 816-532-0406 to schedule an appointment.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

Smithville Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) is a program which provides services to children with developmental delays who live in the Smithville School District. Children must meet specific criteria to qualify for Early Childhood Special Education services. To qualify, a child must be between the ages of three and five, but not yet age eligible for kindergarten, and demonstrate significant delays in at least one key developmental area. Children are assessed for delays in the areas of:

- Cognitive (thinking skills),
- Communication (articulation, language, and fluency skills),
- Adaptive (self-help),
- Social/Emotional (social/play skills and behavior) and
- Physical (fine and gross motor skills).

Once a child has been determined eligible for services, an IEP (Individual Education Program) is developed to plan the child's services. All services are to be delivered in the Least Restrictive Environment, and this placement is reassessed at least once each year.



PARENTS AS TEACHERS

The Parents as Teachers program is designed for families with children prenatal through Kindergarten entry. Services include developmental screenings and home visits for all families. The home visiting model is dedicated to providing the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life. The concept for Parents as Teachers was developed in the 1970s when Missouri educators noted that children were beginning kindergarten with varying levels of school readiness. Research showed that greater parent involvement is a critical link in the child's development of learning skills, including reading and writing. Early childhood professionals suggested that a program to provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and parent education to help parents understand their role in encouraging their child's development from the beginning could help improve school readiness and parent involvement.

Developmental screenings are provided free of charge. Families interested in a developmental screening, please contact Mary Kay Grusenmeyer at 816-532-0406 or your Parent Educator.

Once a family has been determined eligible to receive PAT services, the Parent Educator assigned to your family will contact you to schedule a home visit. Home visits occur between 4 times per year up to monthly visits depending on the needs for your family.