



Dear Parent or Guardian,

You recently indicated on your child's Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten application that you would like to receive additional information about the other early learning programs and services that are available.

Since its founding in 1966, Episcopal Children's Services (ECS4Kids) has grown from one center serving a small handful of children to one of Florida's largest child development and school readiness organizations. As the largest not-for-profit child care agency in Northeast Florida, ECS4Kids operates programs in Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Alachua, Marion, Lake, Citrus, Gilchrist, Dixie, and Levy counties. The agency helps parents find quality care for their children, sponsors school readiness programs and assists child care providers in obtaining licenses and staff training for their employees.

Child Care Resource and Referral: ECS4Kids, as a subcontractor of the Early Learning Coalition of North Florida, ECS4Kids helps families locate the best care for their children through Child Care Resource and Referral, a free service to the community funded by Florida's Division of Early Learning. Child Care Resource and Referral is dedicated to helping families locate a child care provider that meets each family's needs. For example, you may want a family child care home that will take both an infant and a 3 year old, gives sibling discounts and is within 5 miles of your job. We can give you a provider listing that meets those needs. Price is often a factor parents ask us to look for when requesting listings. Please do remember that these are listings not recommendations, so you really need to visit the child care providers yourself to see what you think. However, we do provide checklists that can even make this easier to do. You can rest assured that you will be provided with the most up-to-date, accurate information about child care available. With so many choices, we will refer you to a variety of programs and give you tips to help you decide which one best suits your child. Call us at 800-238-3463 or visit our website at <https://www.ecs4kids.org/>.

School Readiness Services: School Readiness Services, also known as subsidized child care is available in Putnam, St. Johns, Clay, Nassau, Baker & Bradford Counties through Episcopal Children's Services. However, families must qualify and there is often a wait list. To apply for the waitlist, please create a School Readiness Application through the Family Portal. The Family Portal website is: <https://familyservices.floridaearlylearning.com/Account/LogOn>. To contact us, you can call our offices at 904-726-1500 or 800-238-3463 or visit our website at <https://www.ecs4kids.org/>. We can often help you with just a phone call, but if you would like to come in, we have offices in the counties we serve and accept walk-ins and appointments.

Other Resources: ECS4Kids can also refer you to other social services such as programs that assist families with children with Special Needs, Head Start – a federally funded educational program for young children from low-income families, Florida KidCare – free or low-cost child health insurance, and many others.

Visit our website at <https://www.ecs4kids.org/> or call us today at: 800-238-3463.

