

WELCOME

Infant Classroom — Otters & Seals



Faith Daycare & Learning Center
Anchorage • Alaska

Welcome to the Infant Classroom!

Here are some items you will need to know...

Room arrangement

The infant room is divided into two classrooms, *Otters* and *Seals*. The Otters are ages 6 weeks to 6/7 months. The Seals range from 6/7 months to 12/14 months (The child needs to be walking to move to the next class).

Caregivers

Infants have one dedicated caregiver but other caregivers will assist. The Infant class is divided by ages, and has two teachers on each side of the classroom. On each side of the room, one teacher will take care of the youngest four and one teacher will take care of the oldest four. A fifth teacher floats between both sides during the week in the afternoons.

Supplies

The supplies needed for each child include bottles (at least three), a pacifier (if the child uses one), diapers, and extra clothing. Each child will have their own cubby in the classroom where parents can leave the diaper bag for the week, but parents need to take it home for the weekends.

Food

The Infants class is supplied with formula (Kirkland Signature w/ Iron), baby cereal and baby food (fruits and veggies). If the child is formula fed and you prefer to use a brand other than the kind the Center supplies, you will need to supply your desired brand. If the infant is breastfed, we have a fridge and freezer for storage. Your child's teacher will warm up bottles in a crock pot of heated water. The Center is a part of the food program (CACFP), and as such a child can start eating cereal and baby food around 4 months. Your child's teacher(s) will be in communication with you on when would be a good time for your child to start food and cereal to ensure a happy belly. Between 8-11 months, the child can begin practicing eating table foods, because by the time they are one year, he or she will eat off the big-kid tray. Parents can select the items they would like their child to try by circling the items on the big-kid menu. At age one, the child will start drinking whole milk instead of formula. Every Friday evening you can ask the office for a copy of the menu to see what choices are available for the next week.

Outside

The teachers do take infants on wagon/ stroller rides, even in the winter (unless it is 10 or below). Please make sure that your child has a warm hat, gloves and coat to enjoy the much needed fresh air.

Safe Sleep Policy

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death for infants between one month and twelve months of age.

SIDS is most common for infants who are 1–4 months of age. However, babies can die of SIDS until they are 1 year old. (Babies who are used to sleeping on their backs and then placed on their tummies to sleep are at a much higher risk of SIDS)

In order to help reduce the risk of SIDS, Faith Daycare & Learning Center abides by the following policies:

- Babies will be placed flat on their backs to sleep unless there is a sleep position medical waiver, signed by a physician, practitioner, or clinician on file. (When a parent brings a sleeping child in to the Center, in a car seat, the parent needs to remove the child from the car seat and place the child on his/her back in the crib.)
- Devices such as wedges or infant positioners will not be used since such devices are not proven to reduce the risk of SIDS.
- Swaddling (wrapping a baby's arms tightly to their body using a sleep sack) will only be used until a baby turns 4 months old or until a child rolls over while awake, whichever comes first.
- Sleep sacks (with arms not bound) will be used for warmth instead of blankets in the cribs for any child under 1 year old.
- When an infant can easily turn over from back to front and front to back, they can remain in whatever position they prefer to sleep.
- No stuffed animals, pillows or bumper pads will be used in the cribs.
- Only one infant will be placed in a crib to sleep
- Bibs and pacifiers will not be tied around a baby's neck or clipped to a baby's clothing during sleep.
- Cribs meet the 2012 compliance regulations
- Each crib is equipped with a firm mattress

Supervision

- Infants are within sight and hearing of staff
- A staff member will visibly check on the sleeping infants frequently
- When an infant is awake, they will have supervised "tummy time." This helps babies strengthen their muscles and develop normally.

Training

- All staff are trained on safe sleep policies and practices
- All staff are trained CPR and First Aid training

Faith Daycare & Learning Center

A Ministry of Faith Christian Community

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