



DURHAM'S PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

Welcome to Pre-K!

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PACKET



VISIT US AT WWW.DPFC.NET
CALL AT 919-403-6960
SEND A FAX TO 919-403-6963

1201 S. BRIGGS AVE., SUITE 100
DURHAM, NC 27703



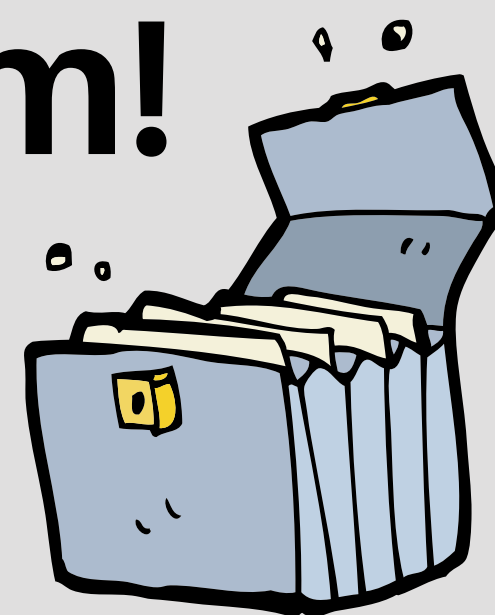


Greetings Pre-K Families!

My name is Courtney Kelly and I serve as the Family Engagement Specialist at Durham's Partnership for Children ("DPfC"). It is our mission to ensure that every child in Durham enters school ready to succeed. I am ecstatic that your child has the opportunity to receive a high-quality educational experience that will prepare him/her for kindergarten! Family Engagement is a collaborative process where families, children, and early childhood professionals build positive relationships. With that being said, I will be here as a resource to you, your child, and the Pre-K program!



Meet the DPfC Pre-K Team!

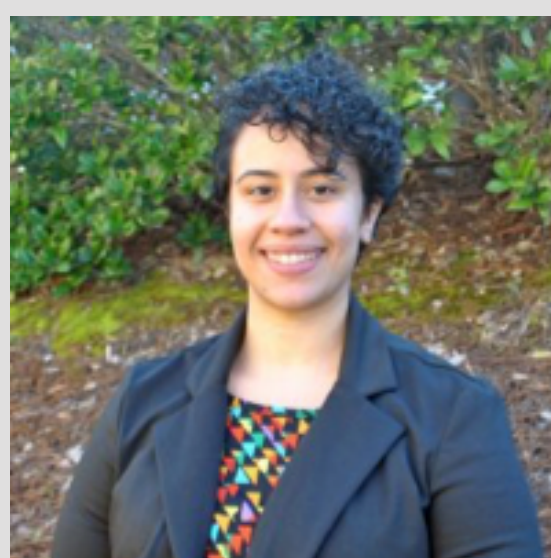


Courtney Kelly
Family Engagement Specialist (Ext. 215)
courtney@dpfc.net

Responsible for planning, coordinating, and implementing family engagement activities at participating Pre-K programs in close collaboration with teachers and directors. She also oversees the Transition to Kindergarten Initiative to help facilitate a smooth transition for Pre-K families.

Taylor Young
Pre-K Quality Specialist (Ext. 226)
taylor@dpfc.net

Responsible for working primarily with the NC Pre-K and Durham Pre-K programs to ensure that they provide high-quality education to eligible four year olds children in Durham County.

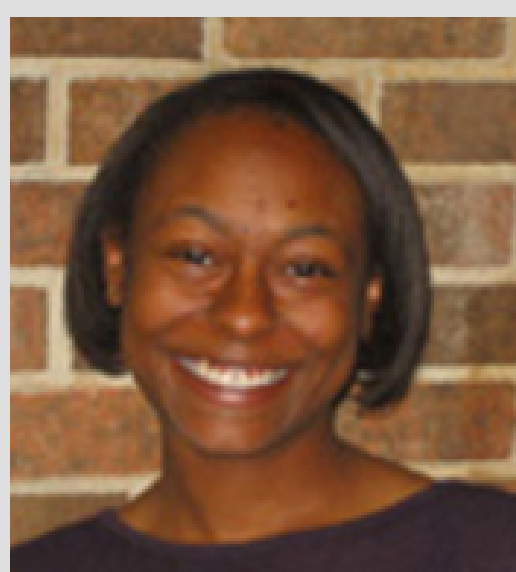


Melissa Radice Peguero
Pre-K Program Specialist (Ext. 219)
melissa@dpfc.net

Responsible for the screening of parents and children. Melissa also handles NC Pre-K scholarship information.

Grace Smith
Outreach Specialist (Ext. 211)
grace@dpfc.net

Responsible for informing and educating the community about the programs of the Partnership. Grace is also responsible for sending and receiving referrals through the NCCARE360 platform, a database that connects health and human service organizations together to best serve the residents of North Carolina.



Jameka Wells
Program Coordinator (Ext. 214)
jameka@dpfc.net

Responsible for the administration and data input of the NC Pre-K program. While she is involved in the NC Pre-K application process and screenings for children, Jameka also makes sure that all data is current for state funders.

Brittany Gregory
Director of Programs (Ext. 224)
brittany@dpfc.net

Responsible for providing leadership to programming staff and is responsible for the delivery and overall success of each program. She also works collaboratively with community partners to foster relationships and align efforts to ensure Durham's children enter school ready to succeed.



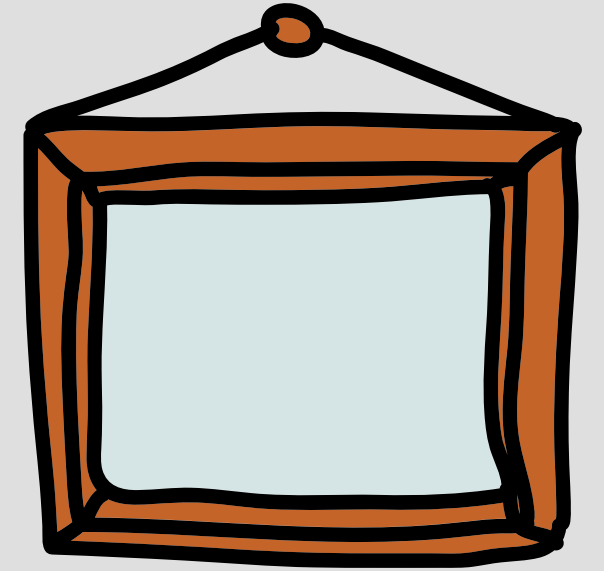
Please call us or send us an email if you have a concern!

Meet the CCSA Pre-K Team!



Alex Livas-Dlott
Durham PreK Senior Manager
alexld@childcareservices.org

Allie Brown
Bilingual Pre-K Information Specialist
durhamprek@childcareservices.org



Katie Thayer
Family Engagement Counselor
katiet@childcareservices.org

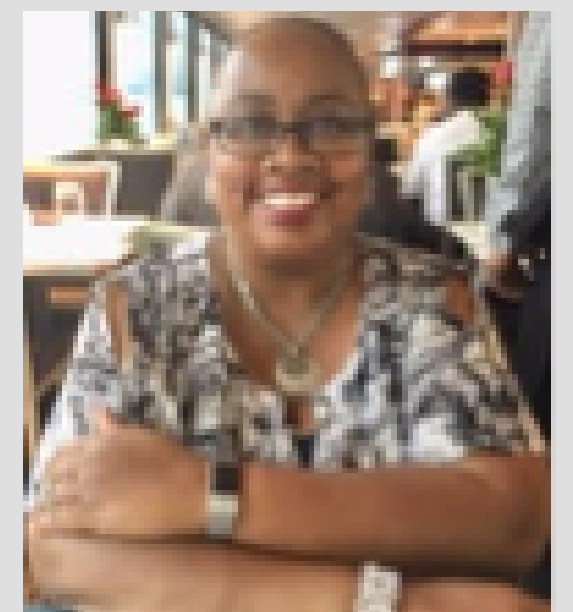
Beverly Williams
Technical Assistance Manager
beverlyw@childcareservices.org



Kamika Henderson
Technical Assistance Specialist
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Nita McAdoo
Technical Assistance Specialist
nitam@childcareservices.org

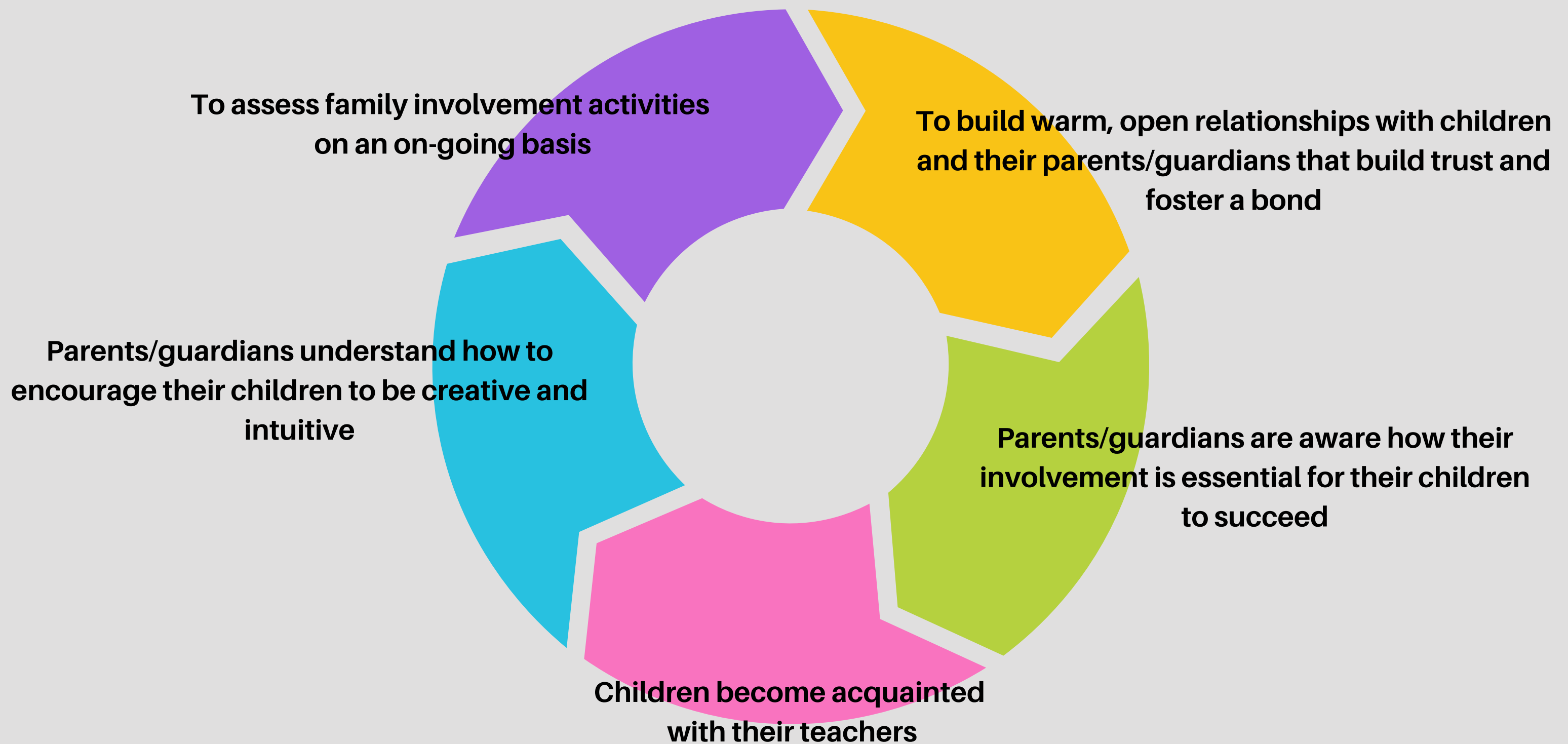


Shawn Shefte
Technical Assistance Specialist
shawns@childcareservices.org



**All CCSA team members can be reached via
phone at 919-403-6950!**

Family Engagement Goals/Outcomes



What will be the Positive Impacts on Your Child?

- ✓ Social Competence
- ✓ Cognitive Development
- ✓ Communication Skills
- ✓ Literacy Development
- ✓ Vocabulary Growth
- ✓ Expressive Language
- ✓ Comprehension Skills
- ✓ Positive engagements with peers, adults, and learning

DPfC'S COMPONENTS OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



DPfC will provide support based on our 6 components of Family Engagement:

ADVOCACY AND DECISION-MAKING: Parents/guardians are full partners in decisions that affect children. They have something critical to share at each developmental stage and are included as participants in decision-making in: curriculum, school decisions, governance, and advocacy through parent organizations.

COMMUNICATION: Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: Coordinate resources/services for students, families, and the school with businesses, agencies, and other groups, and to provide services to the community.

PARENTING/TRAINING: Assist families with parenting and child-rearing skills, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions that support children as students.

STUDENT LEARNING: Involve families with their children in learning activities at home, including homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.

VOLUNTEERING: Schedule to involve families as volunteers and audiences at school to support students and school programs. Families are invited to share cultural traditions/customs, provide support and their strengths.

How will you be engaged in your child's
education?



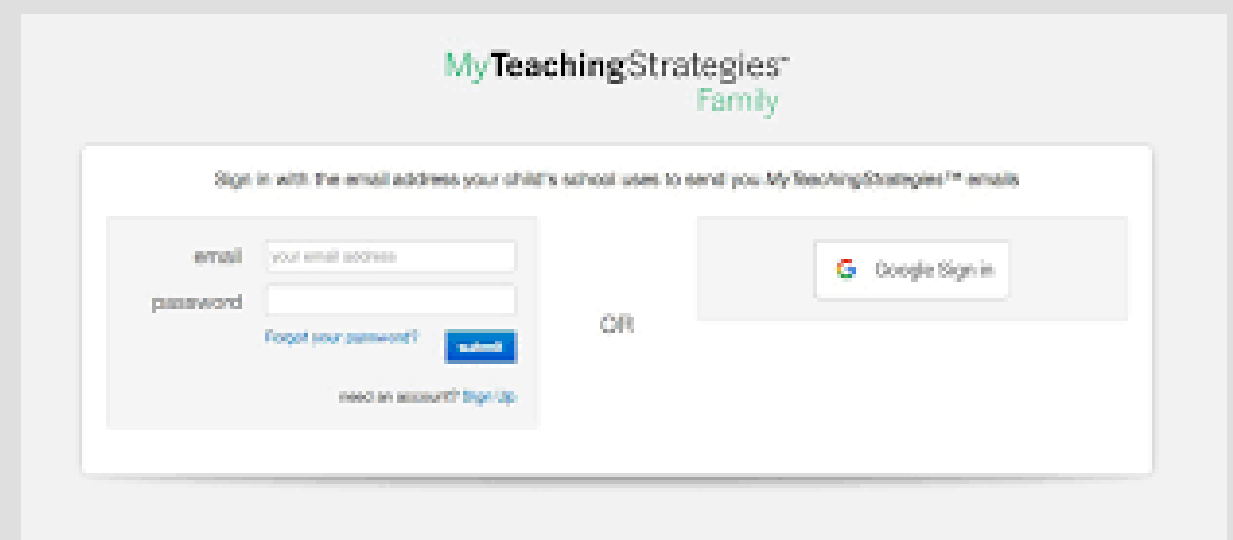
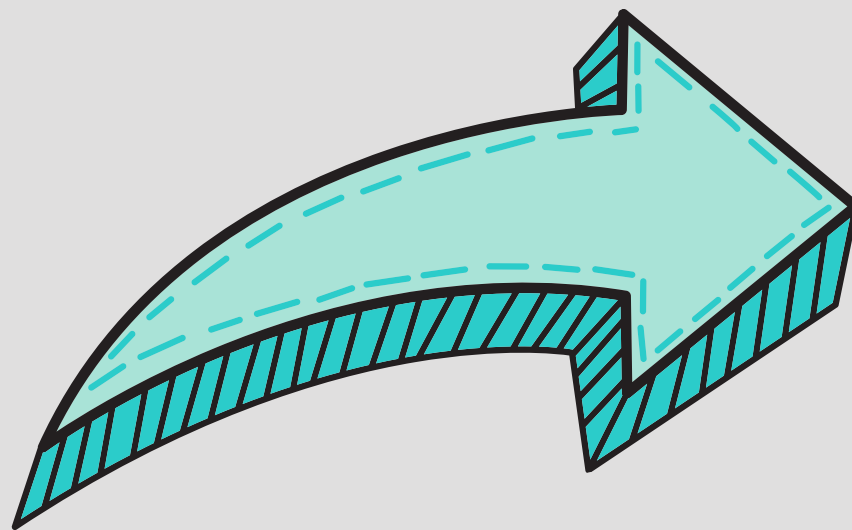
Now that you've accepted your placement, lets get started!

Please understand that the start of the school year may look different due to local, state, and federal health and safety measures. Programs may be implementing **remote learning models/strategies. It is imperative that you participate to your fullest ability.**

Follow these steps to make sure that you are fully connected with us during the school year:



1. Add **courtney@dpfc.net** to your email address book! *This will prevent my emails from being flagged as junk in your inbox.*



2. Click **here** to download **MyTeachingStrategies™ Family Portal**- an observation-based assessment system designed to engage and include families in meaningful ways, including family communication tools to help share information about children's learning and development between school and home. Available for Apple and Android devices.

3. Register for **Ready4K** by texting DPFC to 70138- free text message curriculum for parents and caregivers of children age birth to eight that gives them the information they need to help build their children's language and literacy skills by the time they start kindergarten. The Partnership believes Ready4K is a tool that compliments all the work we do here in Durham County.



What to expect from DPfC?

Our objective is for families, children, and early childhood professionals to feel more connected through the collaborative process of family engagement by building positive relationships that honor family culture and foster child success. We will accomplish this in many ways:

Parent/Guardian Surveys

- Parents/guardians may rate their overall experience during the placement process and provide suggestions on how the experience can be improved. We will also evaluate the six components of family engagement from the parent's/guardian's perspective. Families are able to provide feedback regarding support and services received. Your participation helps us advocate for resources!

Photographic & Video Release Form

- Consent form completed by parents/guardians to use photos and/or videos to promote Universal Pre-K and for remote learning. Click [here](#) to complete the form!



Family Check-ins

- Quarterly Zoom sessions for us to connect in the virtual world!

Family Engagement Quarterly Newsletters

- Will include DPfC's Pre-K program updates.

Take Care Tuesday (Every 4th Tuesday of the month)

- Wellness café; join us and connect with other parents/guardians!

Resources

- Will include DPfC events, community events, free resources, family engagement tips/tricks- in efforts to engage with families on and on-going basis.



Reminder: I will be engaging with you via email and Ready4K text messaging app...so be on the lookout!

What is next from my child's Pre-K site?

1 Home Visit

Opens the lines of communication early and strengthens the relationship with the teacher! (may be virtual to ensure your safety due to COVID-19.)

2 Remote Moments

Blocks of live, direct, remote instruction delivered daily by lead teachers or teacher assistants

4 Family/Child Check-ins

Opportunities for the teacher and a child/family to connect live through two-way communication every week while the child/family is participating in remote learning

3 Formal parent/guardian-teacher conferences

To (1) share academic progress, (2) to be better informed about students' strengths, needs, behaviors, and learning styles, (3) discuss enrichment/intervention strategies, and (4) discuss issues that may be interfering with students' learning and growth

5 Family Engagement Activities

To support the home-to-school and school-to-home learning exchange

...and more!

As a parent/guardian, you will have many opportunities to ENGAGE with us!



Parent/Guardian Articles

You have the chance to write an article for the quarterly Family Engagement Newsletter! You are welcome to share fun activities, recipes, share your wonderful experience in the Pre-K program, and more! Click [here](#) to sign up!

Committee Membership

Volunteers can become a member of an advisory committee, attend regular meetings, participate in making decisions, and support early childhood initiatives. If you are interested in joining a committee, click [here](#) to complete an interest form! Please contact Brittany Gregory, Director of Programs, at brittany@dpfc.net for any questions.

Volunteer Work

Our wonderful volunteers are one of the most important community resources we have for helping us serve children birth to 5 and their families. Volunteering at the Partnership is a great way to be engaged in early childhood issues, to spend time with young children and families, to support important work being done in the Durham community, and to have fun! Click [here](#) to check for updates.

Community Connections Newsletter

All families will receive the Community Connections Newsletter! We feature articles on child development, the importance of high quality preschool and updates on Durham PreK. Past issues ([click here](#)) include resources on preparing for kindergarten, high-quality preschool and home literacy. Issues are also available in Spanish.

I look forward to connecting with each of you!

This is a Pre-K experience you will not forget



Sincerely,

Courtney Kelly, MA
Family Engagement Specialist
Durham's Partnership for Children

There are only 2,000 days between the time a baby is born and when that child enters kindergarten. Early investment creates a lifetime of results. Learn more and help us prepare Durham's children to succeed!

Join DPfC on Facebook



click: [@DurhamsPartnershipForChildren](#)

Subscribe to DPfC Youtube



click: [@DurhamsPartnership](#)

Follow DPfC on Instagram



click: [@the_partnership_dpfc](#)

Read the Partnership Blog



click: <http://dpfc.net/category/blog/>

Follow DPfC on Twitter



click: [@DPFC_NC](#)

General Questions about Durham PreK?



click: <https://durhamprek.org/>

email: durhamprek@childcareservices.org

call: 1-833-773-5338

Join DurhamPreK on Facebook



click: [@DurhamPreK](#)

Follow DurhamPreK on Instagram



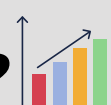
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What do families and teachers say about Pre-K?



click: [Data/Program Highlights](#)

Additional Child Care Needs?



click: <https://www.childcareservices.org/families/fs/finding/>

