



FAMILY SUPPORT AT HEAD START

A Family Support Specialist (FSS) is here to help you have a great experience at Head Start. We are the link between school & home and support families in many ways. FSSs have resources and information to help you, your family and your child while at Head Start.



School Support:

- Call the **Attendance Line** at 720-497-7959 and let us know your child(ren) won't be in class and why. The goal is to have **90% attendance or higher** for every child.
- We are here to ensure you know what's going on at Head Start. Please read your monthly **newsletter** for great information on school and community events, classroom activities, and ways to volunteer.
- We are available at pick up and drop off and throughout the school day to meet with you. We help with sign in/sign out and support you and the teachers in transitioning your child in and out of the classroom.
- We keep your **emergency card** up to date, so if you ever need to change/add someone on your pick-up list, please come see us.
- We help **transition** your family into the program and, when the time comes, help you get ready for kindergarten.



Family Support:

We can help find important resources for you as needs arise. Some examples are:

- Food, clothing, housing programs, mental health resources, help with county benefits (TANF/SNAP/ Medicaid/WIC etc...)
- **Medical/dental resources** and making sure your child is up to date with all their health needs
- Health insurance options
- **Child care assistance** information and support
- **Domestic violence** resources
- Parenting information/resources
- **Family Visits** – we visit with you at your home to learn more about how best to support you and your child. We'll schedule these twice a year at a time that works for your schedule. We'll work alongside you to set and achieve your goals!



In light of COVID-19, we are able to provide family support and all other services virtually or by phone!

YOU are our first and most important priority! If you ever need anything, please contact your FSS. We look forward to getting to you know and your family and are honored to work with you this year!



PARENT INVOLVEMENT: HEAD START LOVES PARENTS!



Family Visits

Your child's enrollment in Head Start includes the opportunity to have 4 family visits each school year.

- 2 with your child's Teachers (in Fall and Spring).
- 2 with your Family Support Specialist (FSS) (also in Fall and Spring).

Why do we do family visits??

- To build positive home-school relationships.
- To meet the teacher before school starts. Talk about what to expect during the school year.
- You and your FSS will create a family goal for the school year. On the second visit FSS's will follow-up on family goals and work with you to help you meet your family's needs.
- To follow-up on your child's health information.
- Discuss kindergarten enrollment for your child when you are ready.
- It's a chance for you to ask questions and talk about the program.
- To get support in accessing services and resources available in the community



Head Start Events:

There are fun, family events throughout the school year that support families and children's learning in many ways. Please ask any questions about school events.

We work with you and all the other program areas such as education, health/nutrition, and mental health.

Family visits can be scheduled at your home, in the community (school, library, park, etc.), or virtually/by phone. We will meet you where you are at!