

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### **Common Abbreviations and Terms:**

**GRCS** - Grand Rapids Christian Schools

**ELC** - Olivia Haverkamp Early Learning Center

**Buds** - Our classrooms for children 18-30 months

**Blossoms** - Our classrooms for children 30 months-3 years

### **GENERAL OPERATION**

#### **When will registration begin for ELC childcare?**

Friday, October 28, 2022, at 6:00 pm

#### **When does the ELC open?**

Monday, January 9, 2023

#### **Do I need to sign a contract and commit to a certain time frame of care?**

Parents are asked to register to reserve their spot and, once approved, a contract must be completed and signed. A two-week notice is required to disenroll.

#### **How old does my child need to be to be eligible for childcare at the ELC?**

A child must be 18 months of age by their first day of care.

#### **How many childcare classrooms are located in the ELC?**

We have five brand new, state-of-the-art classrooms for our children entering the Early Learning Center.

- Our two “Bud” rooms are for children ranging from 18 - 30 months. The maximum number of children in each room is 12, with three caregivers.
- Our three “Blossom” rooms are for children 30 months to 3 years. The maximum number of children in each room is 16, with two caregivers.

#### **What will the ELC calendar look like?**

Childcare for children 18 months to three years old is available year-round. We do not follow the GRCS school-year calendar.

#### **Will childcare at the ELC be available for enrolled children during vacation periods such as Christmas and Spring Break and on snow days?**

The ELC is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. The ELC is open year-round except for the following days:

- New Year's Day (observed)
- Memorial Day
- Fourth of July
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve Day
- Christmas Day
- New Year's Eve Day
- One week in August for deep cleaning/training/records. You will be made aware of the exact week by the beginning of June.

The Early Learning Center does reserve the right to be closed a day(s), if needed, for building repairs or contagious illness.

**Is the ELC licensed?**

Yes, we are a licensed childcare facility in the state of Michigan.

**What are your hours of operation?**

Monday - Friday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm

**How many children will be in each room?**

- In our 18 - 30 month "Bud" rooms there is a maximum of 12 children per room with one lead caregiver and two aides.
- In our 30 month to three year "Blossom" rooms there is a maximum of 16 children per room with one lead caregiver and one aide.

**Are breakfast, lunch, and snacks provided?**

Yes, breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided at specific times according to the daily schedule.

**What are the daily childcare schedule options and pricing?**

Full-time (Monday through Friday) - \$295 per week

Part-time (Monday, Wednesday, Friday) - \$195 per week

Part-time (Tuesday, Thursday) - \$150 per week

**DEVELOPMENT AND READINESS**

**Does my child need to be potty trained to be in a Blossoms class?**

Families are encouraged to begin the potty training process when their child is developmentally ready. We are committed to working with parents during their child's potty training transition.

**What determines readiness to move from Buds to Blossoms?**

The primary factors are the child's age as well as an assessment of the child's developmental readiness. A final determination will be made in conjunction with the parents and ELC staff. Our transition periods will occur in January, June, and September each year.

**OTHER****What is my first step in expressing interest in the ELC?**

Please fill out this [Inquiry Form](#) to express your interest and share your contact information with us so that we can include you on our communication list.

**Will children enrolled in the ELC be able to attend any of our campuses when they enroll in Preschool?**

Yes, our ELC families will benefit from early enrollment opportunities for preschool at all three of our preschool campuses.

**Is the ELC only open to GRCS families?**

The ELC is intended to support the need for quality childcare in the Grand Rapids community. Therefore, registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and families whose children do not attend GRCS will be offered the same opportunity to register their children as GRCS families.

**When may I tour the ELC?**

You may sign up [HERE](#) for one of the following tour times:

- November 18, 12:00-1:00pm
- November 29, 12:00-1:00pm & 5:30-6:30pm

**What are the qualifications of the staff members?**

Our childcare providers meet or exceed all licensing requirements for the state of Michigan child care licensing.

**Is there a registration fee?**

Yes, there is a fee of \$100, which will hold your place either in a room or on the waiting list.

**How does the waitlist work?**

The waitlist will be on a first-come, first-served basis while also taking into consideration sibling preference and either a full- or part-time schedule.

**How long will the registration window be open?**

Registration opens on Friday, October 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm and will remain open until all spots are filled and a waiting list created. From then on, we will have additional registration windows during specified transition periods throughout the year.