

# EARLY CHILDHOOD

## ALBERT LEA AREA SCHOOLS PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

We are excited to announce the start of PRE-K and Kindergarten registration for the 2025-2026 school year at Albert Lea Area Schools.

### HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

**BROOKSIDE EDUCATION CENTER**  
**211 WEST RICHWAY DRIVE, ALBERT LEA, MN**

#### KINDERGARTEN

- To be eligible for **Kindergarten**, students must be five (5) years old on or before September 1, 2025.

For those unable to attend in person, completed registration packets can be dropped off at Brookside Education Center, Monday-Friday from 7:00am-3:30pm. Online registration is also available through the QR code.

If you have questions regarding Kindergarten Registration, please contact Dani Bryant at 507-379-4806 or [dani.bryant@alschools.org](mailto:dani.bryant@alschools.org).

We look forward to meeting our Class of 2038 Tigers!

**CLICK HERE**

**...TO START YOUR ONLINE REGISTRATION.**

#### PRESCHOOL

- To attend **Preschool**, students must be three (3) years and four (4) years old on or before September 1, 2025.

Beginning January 23, Pre-K registration will be LIVE on our website.

If you have any questions regarding Pre-K registration, please contact the Early Learning Office at 507-379-4831. We are excited to serve our students!

**CLICK HERE**

**...TO START YOUR  
ONLINE REGISTRATION.**





## EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

# EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS

Early Childhood Screening is a **free** and simple check of how your child is growing, developing and learning.

### What to expect at a screening appointment:

#### A trained professional will check:

- Vision and hearing
- Height and weight
- Immunizations records
- Large and small muscles
- Thinking, language and communication skills
- Social and emotional development

This screening may help link you to other free learning opportunities, such as prekindergarten programming, Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE), Minnesota early learning scholarships for high quality care and education, Head Start, Home Visiting, and Early Childhood Special Education.

### Upcoming Dates:

Thursday, April 4 | 8:00am-6:00pm  
Friday, April 5 | 8:00am-2:00pm

Thursday May 7 | 8:00am-6:00pm  
Friday, May 8 | 8:00am-2:00pm

To schedule your child's appointment, register online at [www.AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org](http://www.AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org), click the button to the right or call 507-373-4831.



Your child may also be screened at their Head Start, Child and Teen Check-ups or a clinic that offers developmental screening. Parents may conscientiously object to screening. Minnesota Statutes 121A.17.

### WHAT IS ECFE?

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is a program by Albert Lea Area Schools offering parenting information and support for parents with children from birth to age 5.

### WHAT DOES A TYPICAL ECFE CLASS INCLUDE?

- **Parent-Child Activity Time:** Families explore a classroom with play materials and learning activities led by a licensed early childhood teacher.
- **Parent Education Time:** Parents meet with a licensed parent educator to share support, experiences, and parenting techniques.
- **Children's Activity Time:** Children engage with the early childhood teacher and practice social skills with their peers.

### WE ARE HERE TO MEET YOUR NEEDS!

If you are interested in a parent-child class or a virtual parenting class but do not see a course that fits your schedule, please reach out to our staff. We are happy to discuss additional options that work for you!

#### Contact:

- Katrina Pedersen: [katrina.pedersen@alschools.org](mailto:katrina.pedersen@alschools.org)
- Krista Doyle: [krista.doyle@alschools.org](mailto:krista.doyle@alschools.org)

### SUPPORT FOR CHALLENGING EARLY CHILDHOOD BEHAVIORS

We understand that your child's behavior can be challenging. Our Early Childhood Parent Educators are here to provide free information and support for parents and caregivers dealing with these issues.




To set up an appointment, which can be in person or via Zoom, please email:

- Krista Doyle: [krista.doyle@alschools.org](mailto:krista.doyle@alschools.org)
- Mary Jo Volkman: [mary.volkman@alschools.org](mailto:mary.volkman@alschools.org)

### WE LOOK FORWARD TO ASSISTING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!



**BABY SERIES CLASSES**  
**TODDLER SERIES CLASSES**  
**PARENTING CLASSES**  
**SPECIAL EVENTS**

-  NEW CLASS OFFERING
-  POPULAR CLASS
-  SIBLING CARE OFFERED



**3 WAYS TO REGISTER**  
 CREDIT CARD ONLY



**ONLINE**

AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org



**CALL**

507-379-4831



**IN PERSON**

211 W Richway Drive

**CLICK TO  
SEE CLASS  
OFFERINGS**



**BABY BUDS**

Parent Educator: Mary Jo Volkman & Krista Doyle

0-12 month olds & parents

Welcome to our cozy Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class designed for parents and their precious 0-12 month olds! Dive into a world of gentle songs, sensory play, and supportive discussions tailored to the needs of early parenthood. From tummy time tips to soothing techniques, discover invaluable insights while bonding with your baby and connecting with other families. Join us in a nurturing space where laughter, learning, and love abound. Together, we'll celebrate the joys of infancy and lay the foundation for a lifetime of exploration and growth.



Brookside Rm. 204

9 sessions each

See Fee Chart

**EC14** 

**Tuesdays, March 25- May 20**  
**4:00-5:00pm**

 **EC18**

**Thursdays, March 27- May 22**  
**8:30-9:30am**

**LITTLE EXPLORERS**

Parent Educator: Mary Jo Volkman & Krista Doyle

6-18 month olds & parents

Welcome to our exciting Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class, where parents and their curious 6-18 month olds delve into the world of sensory exploration! Together, we'll engage in playful activities that stimulate your baby's senses—touch, sight, sound, smell, and taste. From sensory bins to textured play mats, every session is designed to spark wonder and promote developmental growth. Join us for a delightful blend of bonding moments, giggles, and discoveries as we nurture your little one's early curiosity in a warm and supportive environment.



Brookside Rm. 204

9 sessions each

See Fee Chart

**EC06**  

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: MARCH 21**

**Thursdays, March 27- May 22**  
**10:00-11:00am**

**BABY SHOWER**

Parent Educator: Krista Doyle

Expecting parents or child 0-6 months

Welcome to the start of your parenting adventure! Whether you're expecting or have recently welcomed your little one, we're thrilled to invite you to our Early Childhood Family Education community. Explore our facilities, connect with other families-to-be, and discover our exciting programs. Plus, enjoy a free welcome baby goodie bag as our special gift to you!

Brookside Rm. 202

1 sessions each

No-Cost

**EC08**  
**EC10**

**Friday, March 14**  
**Friday, May 9**

**10:00-11:00am**  
**10:00-11:00am**



## PEA PODS

1-2 year olds & parents

Parent Educators: Krista Doyle & Mary Jo Volkman

ECFE Teacher: Katrina Pedersen



Welcome to a nurturing and enriching experience designed specifically for parents and their 1-2 year olds! Our Early Childhood Family Education class offers a supportive environment where families can learn, play, and grow together during this critical stage of early development. Enjoy the journey of parenthood surrounded by a welcoming community of families just like yours.

Brookside Rm. 204

9 sessions each

See Fee Chart

EC27

REGISTER BY: MARCH 19

Tuesdays, March 25- May 20

8:30-9:30am

## GROWING TOGETHER

1-3 year olds & parents

Parent Educator: Mary Jo Volkman

ECFE Teacher: Katrina Pedersen

Step into our vibrant Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class, where parents and their adventurous 12-36 month olds embark on a journey of discovery and joy! Through engaging activities like sensory play, creative arts, and interactive stories, we celebrate each milestone and foster curiosity in our little explorers. Connect with fellow parents, share experiences, and gain practical tips from our supportive community of caregivers and educators. Join us for a fun-filled time of learning and laughter, where every moment is a new adventure in toddlerhood!

Brookside Rm. 204

9 sessions each

See Fee Chart

EC21

REGISTER BY: MARCH 19

Tuesdays, March 25- May 20

5:30-6:30pm

## LITTLE ACORNS

3-5 year olds & parents

Parent Educator: Krista Doyle

ECFE Teacher: Hannah Lee

Parents and their lively 3-5 year olds will embark on exciting outdoor explorations in nature! Together, we'll discover the wonders of the natural world through scavenger hunts, nature walks, and imaginative outdoor games. From observing wildlife to creating nature-inspired art, each session fosters a love for the great outdoors and promotes physical activity. Join us for a joyful blend of laughter, learning, and unforgettable adventures as we play, learn, and grow together in nature's playground! **No class May 8. Weather backup location:**

**Brookside Rm. 237. REGISTER BY: MARCH 28**

EC29

Thursdays, March 27- May 22

4:00-5:00pm

Outdoor Adventure Classroom

8 sessions

See Fee Chart

## Join Our Parent Advisory Council

Your voice matters - join Early Childhood & Family Education (ECFE) at our next meeting. Connect with families, share insights, and help shape our program to better serve the community.

For parents of children ages birth- 5 years.

Thursday, April 1  
11:30-12:30pm  
Brookside Rm. 202

RSVP FOR PIZZA LUNCH!

Be sure to preregister online at [AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org](http://AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org) so we can save you a spot and plan lunch for everyone!

## BUZZY BEES

2-3 year olds & parents

Parent Educators: Krista Doyle & Mary Jo Volkman

ECFE Teacher: Katrina Pedersen

Join us in our lively Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class tailored for parents and their energetic 2-3 year olds! Join us for a delightful blend of play, learning, and connection in a supportive environment designed to celebrate this dynamic stage of early childhood. Through interactive activities, music, stories, and guided playtime, we'll explore the wonders of toddlerhood together. Build friendships with other families, gain valuable parenting tips, and watch your child thrive as they engage in age-appropriate activities that spark curiosity and creativity. This class is where learning meets laughter!

Brookside Rm. 204

9 sessions each

See Fee Chart

EC22

REGISTER BY: MARCH 19

Tuesdays, March 25- May 20

10:00-11:10am



## NO DRAMA DISCIPLINE

Parent Educators: Mary Jo Volkman & Krista Doyle

Parents of newborns  
0-7 years

Join our discussion as we explore the workbook "No Drama Discipline" by Daniel J. Siegel and Tina Payne Bryson. This insightful guide offers effective strategies for nurturing emotional intelligence in children while maintaining discipline without conflict. We'll discuss practical techniques for fostering connection and understanding in parenting, making it a perfect resource for anyone looking to cultivate a more peaceful and supportive family environment. Come share your thoughts and experiences in a friendly, supportive atmosphere! **REGISTER BY: MARCH 19**

EC02

NEW

Brookside Rm. 202

Tuesdays, March 25- April 29

1:30-2:30pm

6 sessions

\$48

## PARENT MAKE & TAKE

Educator: Krista Doyle & Mary Jo Volkman

Parents of newborns  
0-5 years

Join us for a hands-on Parenting Make and Take class where you can create fun activities to bring home to your little one! This interactive session is all about crafting engaging projects that encourage play and learning for kids. It's a great opportunity to connect with other parents, share ideas, and leave with unique creations that will keep your kids entertained and engaged. Come ready to get crafty and take home some fun!

EC25: Playdough, Moon Sand, Sidewalk Chalk

NEW

Thursday, April 3

5:30-6:30pm

ECFE Rm. 202

\$7

EC28: Calm Down Corner Basket

NEW

Thursday, May 15

5:30-6:30pm

ECFE Rm. 202

\$7

## POP-UP SUPER SCIENCE & NATURE IS NEAT!

Parent Educator: Mary Jo Volkman  
ECFE Teacher: Katrina Pedersen

3-5 year olds & parents

Join us for our exciting new "Pop-Up" ECFE class! Whether you sign up for one session or all, your little explorer will love diving into the themes of Super Science and Nature is Neat. Designed for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers, these interactive classes feature hands-on experiments, engaging activities, and outdoor adventures that spark curiosity and foster a love of learning. Together, we'll celebrate the wonders of science and the beauty of our natural world in a fun and dynamic environment.

Brookside Rm. 237

1 session each

\$7 per child

EC32 SCIENCE

NEW

Thursday, March 27

9:00-10:30am

**REGISTER BY: MARCH 21**

NEW

EC33 NATURE

Thursday, April 17

9:00-10:30am

**REGISTER BY: APRIL 11**

## OPEN GYM

Parent Educator: Krista Doyle

1-5 year olds & parents

Join us for Open Gym, a playful and active ECFE time designed for kids ages 1-5 and their caregivers! Let your little ones explore, climb, and run in a safe, welcoming environment. With a variety of equipment and activities, this open playtime encourages movement, coordination, and social interaction. Caregivers can relax and connect with others while the kids enjoy free play and make new friends. Come have fun, get moving, and make some joyful memories together!

Brookside Gym B

1 session each

\$7 per child

EC34

NEW

**REGISTER BY: MARCH 21**

Thursday, March 27

5:30-6:30p

CLASS SLIDING FEE CHART							
<p>The class fee is based on your household’s total yearly income, before taxes and your family size. This information is confidential. class fees are necessary to supplement state and local tax dollars dedicated to supporting Early Childhood programs for School District 241.</p> <p><i>1. Locate your family size</i></p> <p><i>2. Locate your family income</i></p> <p><i>3. Move down column to class fee</i></p>	FAMILY SIZE	CATEGORY A		CATEGORY B		CATEGORY C	
		ANNUAL INCOME		ANNUAL INCOME		ANNUAL INCOME	
	2	Below \$35,000		\$35,000-\$45,000		\$45,000+	
	3	Below \$45,000		\$45,000-\$55,000		\$55,000+	
	4	Below \$55,000		\$55,000-\$65,000		\$65,000+	
	5	Below \$65,000		\$65,000-\$75,000		\$75,000+	
	6+	Below \$75,000		\$75,000-\$85,000		\$85,000+	
	CLASSES	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 1	SESSION 2
	Pea Pods	\$16	\$16	\$32	\$32	\$45	\$45
	Buzzy Bees	\$16	\$16	\$32	\$32	\$45	\$45
	No Drama Discipline	\$48		\$48		\$48	
	Baby Buds	\$16	\$16	\$32	\$32	\$45	\$45
	Growing Together	\$16	\$16	\$32	\$32	\$45	\$45
	Little Explorers	\$16	\$16	\$32	\$32	\$45	\$45
	Little Acorns	—	\$14	—	\$28	—	\$40
	Pop-Up Super Science & Nature if Neat!	\$7 each		\$7 each		\$7 each	
	Open Gym	\$7 each		\$7 each		\$7 each	
Make & Take	\$7 each		\$7 each		\$7 each		
Sibling Care is an additional \$2 per class, with no extra charge for multiple children – the cost remains the same for one child.							