2026-2027



PARENT HANDBOOK AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE MANUAL

100 North ABC Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 457-2461

https://www.baldwincountyschoolsga.org/early-learning-center

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GENERAL INFORMATION



BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOLS MISSION

The mission of the Baldwin County School District is to educate students who will graduate from high school with the knowledge, skills and values to be college and/or career ready in order to be contributing members of a global society.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Baldwin County Child & Family Development Center

The philosophy of our program is to help each child develop a positive concept of herself/himself in the family, school, and community while engaged in optimum learning. Activities are offered to encourage social, emotional, intellectual, and physical development that will stimulate each child's growth as a unique individual with special strengths, interests, and needs. This program philosophy enables us to be a fully inclusive program for all children, regardless of special needs and diverse backgrounds.

Our program believes strongly in the importance of well-rounded child. We not only provide sound developmentally appropriate activities for learning, but also include comprehensive health and social services for children and their families. The parent training we provide helps parents to understand how young children learn best so they can be supportive of their child's development. We also offer additional support services to those families needing them.

ELC PBIS EXPECTATIONS

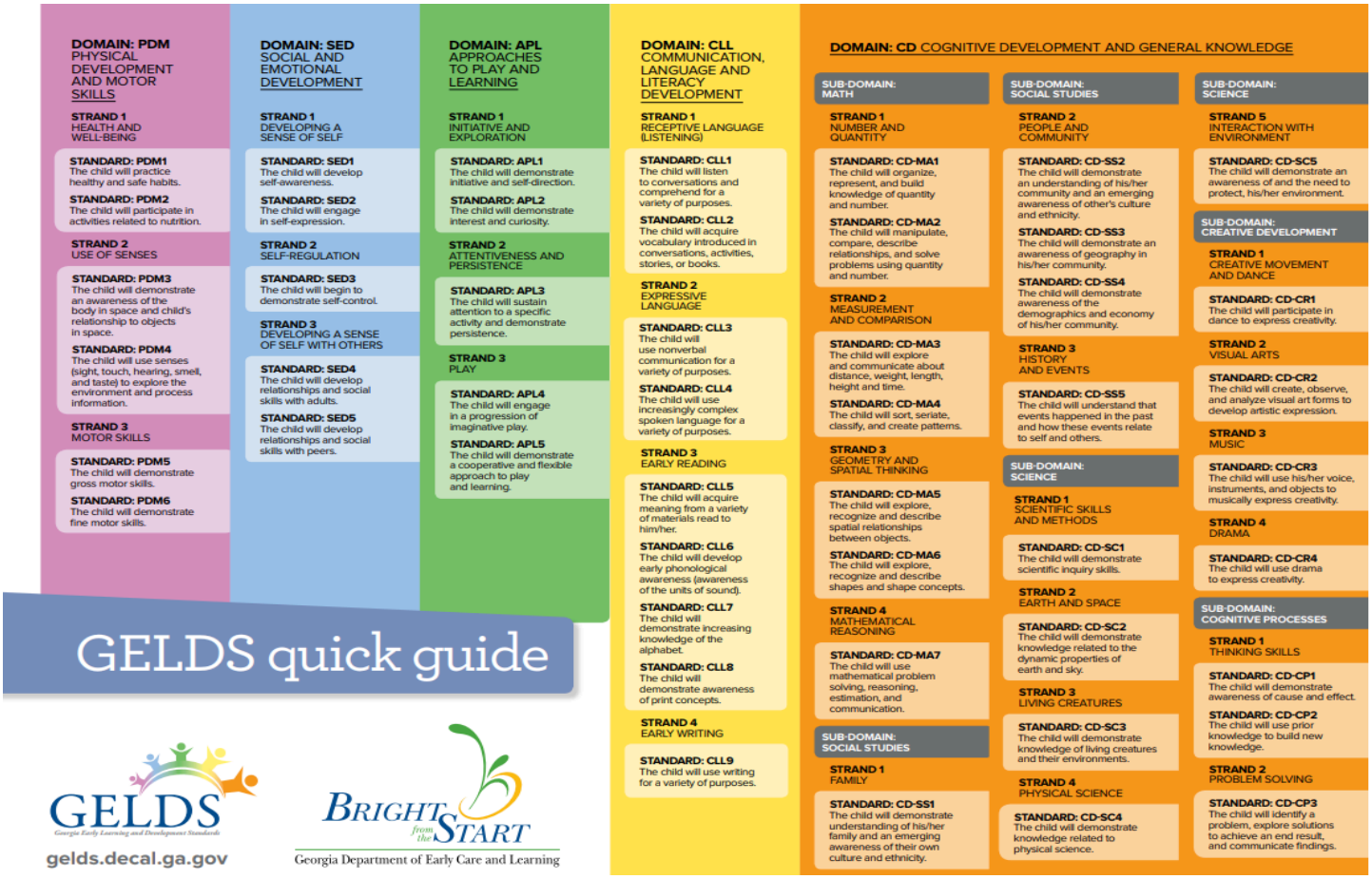
1. Kind Hands
2. Kind Feet
3. Kind Ears
4. Kind Words



BALDWIN COUNTY CHILD & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Baldwin County Board of Education has been the recipient of the Head Start Grant for over three decades. The state of Georgia began funding Grants for the implementation of a Pre Kindergarten program for Baldwin County four-year-olds in 1993. Due to the unique needs of preschoolers and complexities in quality program implementations, the Baldwin County community leaders decided that the most efficient use of resources and effective facilitation of services could be carried out through extensive collaboration between the Head Start and Georgia Pre K programs. As system planning took place for the construction of new facilities, the concept of one location for both preschool programs was realized. The Baldwin County Child and Family Development Center was built and was opened in the fall of 2004. The Baldwin County school system, entrenched in its commitment to provide high quality services to its preschoolers, specifically designed a facility that was infant, toddler, and preschooler friendly. The Center was declared the residence of the Baldwin County School District preschool program called the Early Learning Center (ELC) and was centrally located adjacent to the newly constructed Board of Education building. All aspects of the facility are up-to-date with Georgia health inspector and fire marshal codes.

The Head Start Early Learning Outcome and Development Framework and the Georgia Early Learning Development Standards are used as the guiding documents in preparing children to be ready for their next educational environment. The primary curriculum used at the Early Learning Center to provide a comprehensive educational service model is the Frog Street Curriculum published by Frog Street Press in both Spanish and English versions. The Frog Street curriculum provides a comprehensive guide through a complete scope and sequence for developmentally appropriate classroom implementation across all domains for both our three year old and four year old students. Additional resources are utilized and incorporated throughout the school year to strengthen teachers' potential to effectively individualize instruction as student needs dictate. Even though the curriculum provides a structure for planning and recommendations for activities to be implemented, it allows for teacher and student creativity and input. Additional curricula provided for teachers in the program include Zoo-Phonics (Language and Literacy), Second Step (Social/Emotional), and Good Touch Bad Touch (Health and Safety). Resources and efforts across all service areas are targeted toward common school readiness goals as established in the following table:


DOMAIN: PDM
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND MOTOR SKILLS
STRAND 1
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
STANDARD: PDM1
The child will practice healthy and safe habits.
STANDARD: PDM2
The child will participate in activities related to nutrition.
STRAND 2
USE OF SENSES
STANDARD: PDM3
The child will demonstrate an awareness of the body in space and child's relationship to objects in space.
STANDARD: PDM4
The child will use senses (sight, touch, hearing, smell, and taste) to explore the environment and process information.
STRAND 3
MOTOR SKILLS
STANDARD: PDM5
The child will demonstrate gross motor skills.
STANDARD: PDM6
The child will demonstrate fine motor skills.
DOMAIN: SED
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
STRAND 1
DEVELOPING A SENSE OF SELF
STANDARD: SED1
The child will develop self-awareness.
STANDARD: SED2
The child will engage in self-expression.
STRAND 2
SELF-REGULATION
STANDARD: SED3
The child will begin to demonstrate self-control.
STRAND 3
DEVELOPING A SENSE OF SELF WITH OTHERS
STANDARD: SED4
The child will develop relationships and social skills with adults.
STANDARD: SED5
The child will develop relationships and social skills with peers.
DOMAIN: APL
APPROACHES TO PLAY AND LEARNING
STRAND 1
INITIATIVE AND EXPLORATION
STANDARD: APL1
The child will demonstrate initiative and self-direction.
STANDARD: APL2
The child will demonstrate interest and curiosity.
STRAND 2
ATTENTIVENESS AND PERSISTENCE
STANDARD: APL3
The child will sustain attention to a specific activity and demonstrate persistence.
STRAND 3
PLAY
STANDARD: APL4
The child will engage in a progression of imaginative play.
STANDARD: APL5
The child will demonstrate a cooperative and flexible approach to play and learning.
DOMAIN: CLL
COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DEVELOPMENT
STRAND 1
RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE (LISTENING)
STANDARD: CLL1
The child will listen to conversations and comprehend for a variety of purposes.
STANDARD: CLL2
The child will acquire vocabulary introduced in conversations, activities, stories, or books.
STRAND 2
EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE
STANDARD: CLL3
The child will use nonverbal communication for a variety of purposes.
STANDARD: CLL4
The child will use increasingly complex spoken language for a variety of purposes.
STRAND 3
EARLY READING
STANDARD: CLL5
The child will acquire meaning from a variety of materials read to him/her.
STANDARD: CLL6
The child will develop early phonological awareness (awareness of the units of sound).
STANDARD: CLL7
The child will demonstrate increasing knowledge of the alphabet.
STANDARD: CLL8
The child will demonstrate awareness of print concepts.
STRAND 4
EARLY WRITING
STANDARD: CLL9
The child will use writing for a variety of purposes.
DOMAIN: CD COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
SUB-DOMAIN: MATH
STRAND 1
NUMBER AND QUANTITY
STANDARD: CD-MA1
The child will organize, represent, and build knowledge of quantity and number.
STANDARD: CD-MA2
The child will manipulate, compare, describe relationships, and solve problems using quantity and number.
STRAND 2
MEASUREMENT AND COMPARISON
STANDARD: CD-MA3
The child will explore and communicate about distance, weight, length, height and time.
STANDARD: CD-MA4
The child will sort, seriate, classify, and create patterns.
STRAND 3
GEOMETRY AND SPATIAL THINKING
STANDARD: CD-MA5
The child will explore, recognize and describe spatial relationships between objects.
STANDARD: CD-MA6
The child will explore, recognize and describe shapes and shape concepts.
STRAND 4
MATHEMATICAL REASONING
STANDARD: CD-MA7
The child will use mathematical problem solving, reasoning, estimation, and communication.
SUB-DOMAIN: SOCIAL STUDIES
STRAND 1
FAMILY
STANDARD: CD-SS1
The child will demonstrate understanding of his/her family and an emerging awareness of their own culture and ethnicity.
SUB-DOMAIN: SOCIAL STUDIES
STRAND 2
PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY
STANDARD: CD-SS2
The child will demonstrate an understanding of his/her community and an emerging awareness of other's culture and ethnicity.
STANDARD: CD-SS3
The child will demonstrate an awareness of geography in his/her community.
STANDARD: CD-SS4
The child will demonstrate awareness of the demographics and economy of his/her community.
STRAND 3
HISTORY AND EVENTS
STANDARD: CD-SS5
The child will understand that events happened in the past and how these events relate to self and others.
SUB-DOMAIN: SCIENCE
STRAND 1
SCIENTIFIC SKILLS AND METHODS
STANDARD: CD-SC1
The child will demonstrate scientific inquiry skills.
STRAND 2
EARTH AND SPACE
STANDARD: CD-SC2
The child will demonstrate knowledge related to the dynamic properties of earth and sky.
STRAND 3
LIVING CREATURES
STANDARD: CD-SC3
The child will demonstrate knowledge of living creatures and their environments.
STRAND 4
PHYSICAL SCIENCE
STANDARD: CD-SC4
The child will demonstrate knowledge related to physical science.
SUB-DOMAIN: SCIENCE
STRAND 5
INTERACTION WITH ENVIRONMENT
STANDARD: CD-SC5
The child will demonstrate an awareness of and the need to protect, his/her environment.
SUB-DOMAIN: CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT
STRAND 1
CREATIVE MOVEMENT AND DANCE
STANDARD: CD-CR1
The child will participate in dance to express creativity.
STRAND 2
VISUAL ARTS
STANDARD: CD-CR2
The child will create, observe, and analyze visual art forms to develop artistic expression.
STRAND 3
MUSIC
STANDARD: CD-CR3
The child will use his/her voice, instruments, and objects to musically express creativity.
STRAND 4
DRAMA
STANDARD: CD-CR4
The child will use drama to express creativity.
SUB-DOMAIN: COGNITIVE PROCESSES
STRAND 1
THINKING SKILLS
STANDARD: CD-CP1
The child will demonstrate awareness of cause and effect.
STANDARD: CD-CP2
The child will use prior knowledge to build new knowledge.
STRAND 2
PROBLEM SOLVING
STANDARD: CD-CP3
The child will identify a problem, explore solutions to achieve an end result, and communicate findings.
GELDS quick guide
GELDS
Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards
gelds.decal.ga.gov
BRIGHT from the START
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

Readiness Goals 2025-2026

Children will be able to show an increasing ability to form positive relationships with adults and peers.
Children will be able to express themselves through engaging with others through creative role play.
Children will be able to understand print concepts: • Will identify 9-15 letter sounds with prompting (pictures, objects, etc.). • Understand that letters make words • Will track print left to right and top to bottom
Children will be able to show alphabet knowledge: • Will identify the letters in their name • Will write their first name • Will identify 12-21 uppercase letters • Will identify 9-15 lowercase letters
Children will be able to: • Count to 30 using 1:1 correspondence • Comparison of amounts up to 10 (identify sets that have more, less, and equal). • Create and extend patterns (with at least 2 criteria).
Children will observe their natural environment and ask questions and begin to solve problems that arise during the explorations.
Children will practice healthy and safe habits.

BALDWIN COUNTY EARLY LEARNING CENTER STAFF

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(478) 457-2474

Family Service Advocate……..……..…….....Alice Lewis
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(478) 457-2466

TRANSPORTATION EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTS/STUDENTS

Baldwin County Child & Family Development Center coordinates and collaborates with the Baldwin County Board Of Education Transportation Department in order to provide such services to enrolled preschool families. The Center offers a safe transportation system in an effort to assist parents in their child's preschool education. In order to maintain transportation safety and to fulfill all regulatory requirements, the following expectations should be observed by parents/students. Parent/Student MUST comply with the following expectations to receive transportation services to the Baldwin County Preschool Programs:

1. Due to the **SAFETY** procedures for staff-to-pupil ratios and the supervision of the transition of children the ***BALDWIN COUNTY CHILD & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER WILL NOT MAKE DAILY TRANSPORTATION CHANGES FOR CHILDREN. ONLY PERMANENT CHANGES WILL BE CONSIDERED ONCE PLACED IN WRITING FROM THE PARENT. NO BUS CHANGES ARE MADE OVER THE PHONE. THE PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST COME IN TO THE SCHOOL TO MAKE THESE CHANGES IN WRITING. THE SUPPLEMENTAL FORM MUST BE REVISED TO REFLECT ANY CHANGE IN TRANSPORTATION.***

2. Parents are requested to notify the center (478) 457-2461 when their child will not be attending school.

3. Children (with parent) should be dressed and ready at the bus stop. The Bus Drivers will not blow the horn when they get to your stop. The buses have a schedule they must follow; therefore they are not required to wait for students. If a child misses the bus, it is the parent's responsibility to transport the child to school.

4. Children **must not** cross a street alone. The Parent or a responsible person **MUST** walk the child to the bus door. **A CHILD SHOULD NEVER BE SENT TO THE BUS UNASSISTED.**

5. It is the parent's responsibility to keep the (Supplemental) release list up-to-date and to have someone on that list waiting to receive the child at the bus stop. **(A valid photo I.D. may be required to verify release person).** Parents of children returned to school, will have to pick up the child at the Center. **A child brought back to the center three (3) or more times, can be suspended from the bus. The parent will need to contact the Center to re-instate transportation privileges.**

6. There will be no eating or drinking on the bus. Loud talking or profanity will not be allowed.

7. Children should not bring toys or food on the bus unless requested by the teacher.

8. If your child has been sick during the night, do NOT send him/her to school the next day. A sick child will not be transported to school on the bus.

9. Car riders must be transported to the classroom in the mornings and released to staff. **A child should never be sent into the school alone.** Car rider drop off and pick up times and locations are fully explained during parent orientation.

10. If a parent needs to send a message to school, he/she should call the Center at (478) 457-2461 or send a note with his/her child. The bus assistants and drivers are not responsible for delivering messages.

TRANSPORTATION EXPECTATIONS FOR PARENTS/STUDENTS (cont.)

11. Transportation can be provided for parent meetings for Head Start parents with appropriate arrangements. Head Start parents should call the Center at least **48 hours prior to** the meeting time to make transportation arrangements.

12. Busing times may vary due to number of students being transported on any given day. Children (Parents) should be ready at the bus stop by the time established by the bus driver for pick-up.

13. If a child misses riding the bus for three (3) consecutive days, the driver will not return to that morning stop until the parent notifies the Center when the child will be riding the bus again.

14. Safety and evacuation drills will be scheduled during the year to teach the children what to do in emergencies.

15. **Preschool children transported by buses will be required to abide by bus stop rules and regulations that apply for all public school children.**

BUS CONDUCT RULES

We expect all children riding a bus to learn the proper behavior for transportation safety. Parents should assist in educating the children on the expectations and enforcing that they abide by them.

WHILE ON A BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM BUS CHILDREN **MUST**:

- ➢ Sit on their bottoms facing forwards.
- ➢ Remain seated until it is time to depart from the bus.
- ➢ Keep all loose objects or belongings inside book bags or held tightly in hands in the absence of a book bag.
- ➢ Keep hands, feet, and other objects to him/herself.
- ➢ Pick up any debris that is dropped and properly discard it in the trash.
- ➢ Complete all food and beverage consumption PRIOR to boarding the bus.
- ➢ Use appropriate language (G-rated) and volume.
- ➢ Keep hands, heads, and other objects away from open windows.
- ➢ Walk carefully and hold hand rails when getting on or off the bus.

Children must listen and obey the driver and the bus assistants at all times. Children must remain in their seat belts at all times until instructed otherwise. Please help your child understand what is expected while riding the bus so that transportation will be a safe and fun school experience.

The purpose of these rules is to help ensure the safety of your child while being transported to and from the center. We urge you to help us by going over these rules with your child on a regular basis.

If these rules are not followed bus privileges may be suspended or terminated.

RESPONSE TO PERSONNEL OR PROGRAM OPERATION COMPLAINTS

All complaints about program operations should be submitted in writing to the Director as soon as possible upon the discovery of a questionable incident. The matter will be investigated by the Director and feedback will be provided to the claimant.

Any allegations made about inappropriate personnel behavior or negligence must be submitted in writing to the Director immediately. The incident report should contain all names, dates, times, and locations as best can be described as well as the signature of the complainant.

The following process will occur:

The Director, or designee, will conduct an interview of the complainant in person or by telephone to clarify the complaint.

The Director, or designee, will conduct an interview and collect a written statement from the accused personnel member.

The Director, or designee, will conduct an interview and collect a written statement from any witnesses identified by either party.

The Director, or designee, will collect any other evidence deemed necessary.

The Director will make a determination about necessary actions to be taken upon considering all evidence in the current situation and employee personnel history.

The Director will take the necessary actions. These actions may include but are not limited to: documented conference with employee; written letter of concern to the employee, referral of employee to the Human Resources Director for further action, possible referral of employee to proper agencies (authorities).

The Director should submit a follow up to the complainant indicating that the Director has taken the appropriate action regarding the complaint within three working days of the interview of the complainant. The follow up may be submitted by hand carried letter, email, or facsimile (fax). Unique circumstances may permit a longer response time in the event that involved parties may be out on leave and/or unavailable to give immediate testimony necessary to draw conclusions. In the event of such a delay, the complainant will be informed of the delay within the three working days.

The Director will keep on file all complaints and responses.

A concern or dissatisfaction with a decision made by the Director should be submitted in writing to the Superintendent. The investigation that will ensue will be similar to the process previously described for other personnel.

PROCEDURES FOR CHILDREN'S ABSENCES

The Parent/Guardian is responsible for ensuring that their child/children come to school each day to make the most of their preschool experience.

Please call the school at 457-2461 if your child will be out for any reason.

1. The first day a child is absent, and the parent/guardian has not contacted the school, the Family Service Advocate or Classroom Teacher will attempt to contact parent/guardian by phone or DoJo.

2. If a child has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences and no contact with the school, the Family Service Advocate will make a home visit.

3. The Family Service Advocate and parent/guardian will discuss why the child has been absent and the Family Service Advocate will offer appropriate family support.

4. In circumstances of chronic absenteeism/tardies/early pick ups there will be individual family follow up, including a Mandatory In Person Meeting.

5. It is extremely important that children arrive to school on time each day.

6. To ensure that your child receives a full day or learning, limit early pick ups.

7. **CHRONIC Absenteeism/Tardies/Early Pick Ups is considered more that 2 per month.**

VISITOR POLICY

We invite parents/guardians to visit the school and observe their child's classroom by prearrangement with the Family Advocate. All visitors to the school must report first to the main office to receive a visitor's pass. Parents should not bring younger siblings or children with them for a conference or observation. Please refrain from using your personal cell phone while in the school building. Visits should be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes. If you have items to bring to a student, we ask that you drop them off in the office. Parents may schedule conferences with teachers and/or administrators in advance. In the event of an emergency, parents will need to contact the front office.

Remember, as a safety precaution, parents WILL NOT be allowed in the school building without a scheduled appointment, volunteering or parent activity.

ELC PARENT NOTIFICATION OF (FERPA)

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

- Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies.
- Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.
- Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):
    - School officials with legitimate educational interest;
    - Other schools to which a student is transferring;
    - Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
    - Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
    - Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
    - Accrediting organizations;
    - To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;
    - Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and
    - State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.

Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school

Excerpt taken directly from the U.S. Department of Education's website General Policy Guidance at www.ed.gov .

SERVICE AGENCIES



ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION
CENTRAL GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

54 Highway 22 West
478-445-2300
www.centralgatech.edu

The Baldwin County Adult Education Program is offered free of charge to provide the opportunity for adults to acquire basic academic skills necessary to function in society, to complete the secondary level of education and to secure training that will enable them to become more employable, productive and responsible citizens.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

478-445-1200
Investigates reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of the elderly (age 65 and older) and disabled (18 years and older).

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

www.aageorgia.org

Check website for local meeting dates and times.

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

5962 Zebulon Road, Suite 359
Macon, Georgia
800-257-6941 ext. 6164
www.americanheartassociation.org

The American Heart Association offers a wide variety of cardiovascular programs targeted toward heart health lifestyles and the risk factors of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

804 Cherry Street, Suite A
Macon, Georgia
478-743-6391
1-800-227-2345
www.americancancersociety.org

The American Cancer Society offers a wide range of services to cancer patients as well as their families. The American Cancer Society also helps with monetary services for wigs, appropriate medications, medical equipment, and prosthesis and will help reimburse mileage for treatments.

The American Cancer Society provides educational material and lectures to groups, schools, and other organizations needing their information.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

195 Holt Avenue
Macon, GA 31201
478-743-8671
www.redcross.org

The Red Cross provides services in the following areas:

Blood Services Program	Health Services Training	Disaster Relief
Life Guard Training	First Aid Training	Counselor Certification
HIV/AIDS Training	CPR Training	Hospital Auxiliary

BABIES CAN'T WAIT

100 Ireland Drive
478-445-4274
478-745-9200 North Central Health District
http://northcentralhealthdistrict.org/baldwin-county-health-department/

Babies Can't Wait (BCW) is Georgia's statewide interagency service delivery system for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

BALDWIN COUNTY EXTENSION/4-H

311A Linda Drive NE
478-445-4394
www.caes.uga.edu/extension

The Baldwin County Extension Service is divided into four program areas: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Home Economics, Resource Development and 4-H and Youth. Extension agents and state specialist conduct programs and workshops, provide assistance and printed material as it relates to the four program areas.

BALDWIN COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION

478-456-6402
https://baldwin.gafcp.org/

Baldwin County Family Connection is a collaborative whose purpose is to build community partnerships with citizens, providers, and resources to strengthen families, assist young people prepare for life, and support plans for the betterment of the community.

BALDWIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

100 Ireland Drive, Milledgeville, GA 31061
478-445-4274
http://northcentralhealthdistrict.org/baldwin-county-health-department/

The Health Department offers child health screenings including physicals, developmental and nutritional assessments. Immunizations and screenings for scoliosis, anemia, hearing and vision are also available for children. Dental health programs are available and are maintained in the schools for children ages 6-13.

The Baldwin County Health Department also offers programs and services concerning environmental health, family planning, maternal care, prenatal screening, sexually transmitted disease control, sickle cell screenings, stroke and heart attack prevention and tuberculosis control.

The Health Department offers the (Women, Infant and Children) program, children's medical services (formerly crippled children's services), epidemiology services, laboratory services, rheumatic fever program, mental health services and teen pregnancy prevention. Cancer screening, parasite screening, health education and counseling are also available. Also they provide detection, referral or treatment, rehabilitation and follow-up of chronic diseases in adults.

BALDWIN COUNTY RECREATIONAL DEPARTMENT

59 Ga Highway 22 W
Milledgeville, GA 31061-9607
478-445-0785
http://www.baldwincountyga.com/recreation/

The mission of the Baldwin County Recreation Department is to provide well designed, year-round recreational activities and leisure education for all citizens, while maintaining a safe and wholesome environment. The Baldwin County parks and Recreation Department is a public recreational services system established and empowered by the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners.

BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education
110 North ABC Street
478-453-4176
478-457-3327 (Fax)
https://www.baldwincountyschoolsga.org

Baldwin County Child and Family
Development Center (Early Learning Center)
100 North ABC Street
478-457-2461

Midway Hills Primary
375 Blandy Road
478-457-2495

Midway Hills Academy
101 Carl Vinson Road
478-457-2440

Oak Hill Middle School
356 Blandy Road
478-457-3370

Early College
GC&SU-CBX 073
478-445-3105

Montessori Academy
100 N. ABC St
478-457-2471

Lakeview Primary
372 Blandy Road
478-453-3301

Lakeview Academy
220 ABC Street
478-457-2967

Baldwin High School
155 Hwy 49 West
478-453-6429

OmBudsman
127 Executive Parkway
478-387-4038

BALDWIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

119 Old Monticello Road
478-445-4891
www.baldwinsheriff.com

The Sheriff's department provides public safety, security checks, drug prevention program, neighborhood watch, escorts (security, funeral, house), deliver emergency messages, home security survey and assist motorist.

BALDWIN TRANSIT

312 Allen Memorial Drive
478-445-2941
http://www.baldwincountyga.com/dept-directory/public-transportation/

Baldwin Transit provides transportation of passengers to and from different appointments. They offer transport as long as passengers are able to ride without medical assistance. Passengers must be able to get on and off the bus without assistance. However, there is a bus with a wheelchair lift. A fee of $2.00 per one-way trip is the charge for passengers.

BIG BROTHERS / BIG SISTERS

478-361-0992
http://bbbsheartga.org/

Big Brother/Big Sister is a United Way funded agency that matches volunteers with children from single parent homes. Volunteers spend 2-4 hours with a child each week for at least a year, providing a stable, positive role model.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF BALDWIN COUNTY

1140 W. Charlton Street
478-295-2660
http://milledgevillebgca.weebly.com/

The Boys and Girls Club is a youth development organization dedicated to promoting health, social, educational, vocational, and character development for disadvantaged boys and girls ages 6-16. The Boys and Girls Club is a United Way agency.

CAMP GOOD GRIEF

Contact person: Tammie Malone at 478-453-8572
tmalone@healthcoga.com

Camp Good Grief is a youth bereavement day camp for children ages 5-14 years who are coping with any type of loss and grief.

CENTRAL GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

54 Highway 22, West
478-445-2300
centralgatech.edu

CGTC provides quality academic and technical education, customized business and industry services, continuing education, and adult education services that are responsive to the workforce needs of citizens, business, and industries.

CHILD AND FAMILY GUIDANCE

3033 N Columbia St.
478-451-5205
Provides high quality outpatient mental health care, rehabilitative treatment and supportive social services, and linkages to needed community resources.

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

111 Fieldstone Drive
Suite 200
1-877-423-4746
www.dhs.georgia.gov

The Child Support Unit provides the following services:
Locates absent parents; establishes court orders and paternity for child support and enforce child support court orders; generates support (establishing obligations) from absent parents who have no pre-existing obligations by administrative or legal means; physically collects support payments made by absent parents on behalf of dependent children.

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOL

101 Chappell Hall, GC Campus
Contact person: Courtney Bentley
478-445-8731

A community based, non-profit organization that provides support services for students in need.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS, INC.

102A Airport Road, 100 ABC Street
478-453-0077, 478-215-4009

A health care facility that serves patients regardless of age and regardless of economic status or insurability, also provides patients with spiritual counseling. Patient need is determined by federal poverty guidelines. In addition to acute and chronic illness management, preventative care, wellness programs and spiritual counseling, the clinic also offers medication through its on-site pharmacy.

Call for operating hours.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE (CASA)

PO Box 1586
Milledgeville, GA 31059
478-452-9170 (Office)

The National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA), together with its state and local member programs, supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy so every abused or neglected child in the United States can be safe, have a permanent home and the opportunity to thrive.

CORE HEALTHCARE FOR WOMEN

451 South Wayne Street
478-452-7376
www.coreofcga.com

Provides free and private services and resources under the care of their nursing staff and medical doctor to any woman that may believe she is pregnant.

Call for operating hours.

DENTISTS

Frank Arnold Family Dentistry
1421 N. Columbia St.
478-454-2114

Aspen Dental
1980 N. Columbia St
478-284-0138

Thomas L Davidson, DDS
300 N. Jefferson St.
478-452-3820

Gregory Graham, DMD
395 Meadow Ridge Dr.
478-452-0272

H G Hall, DMD
101 E McIntosh St
478-452-4415

John Harrington, DDS
645 W. Thomas St.
478-453-8666

Janet Hogan Harrison, DDS
108 Fieldstone Dr.
478-453-7535

Lake Country Dental Care
750 N Cobb Street
478-452-3768

Copelan Family Dental
179 Garrett Way
478-453-9371

Peters Dental Office
540 W. Thomas St., Suite A
478-453-8464

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES

154 Roberson Mill Road
478-445-4135
www.dfcs.georgia.gov

Public Assistance Program - offers food stamps, temporary medical assistance to needed families (TANF) payments, Medicaid certification, and Qualified Medicaid Beneficiary (QMB) Assistance regarding premiums, co-insurances, and deductibles for Social Security Premiums.
Adult & Child Protective Services – provides protection for adults and children from abuse or neglect. When the agency receives a complaint, an investigation is conducted and appropriate actions are taken.

Call for operating hours.

EYE CARE

Cathy's Eye Care
1841 N. Columbia St.
478-452-3593

Family Eye Care
111 Fieldstone Dr., Suite 100
478-453-9333

MyEyeDr
2485 N. Columbia St.
478-452-6569

Walmart Vision Center
2592 N. Columbia St., Ste 1
478-452-2611

Pearle Vision
1850 N. Columbia St.
478-453-0011

FAST TRACK IMMEDIATE CARE

1909 North Columbia Street
478-295-3000
Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 8 am-7:30 pm and Sundays 12 pm-5:30 pm

Provides high quality and prompt medical care at affordable prices. No appointment necessary.

FATHERHOOD PROGRAM OCSS

111 Fieldstone Drive Suite 200
877-423-4746
https://childsupport.georgia.gov/fatherhood-program

Provides assistance with finding jobs, interview and application skills, counseling for parents without visitation rights.

FINISH YOUR DIPLOMA

https://finishyourdiploma.org/free-classes
Contact Us 24/7 at 1-877-389-6874

FIRST PRESBYTERTIAN CHURCH OF MILLEDGEVILLE

210 South Wayne Street
478-452-9394

Provides Emergency Financial Assistance for citizens in the Baldwin County area. Utility assistance is provided on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, beginning at 9:15 a.m. All assistance is based on the availability of funds.

FITNESS CENTERS

Body Plex
1850 N Columbia St
Milledgeville
(478) 414-1444

Milledgeville Total Fitness
571 Hammock Road
Milledgeville
(478) 452-2348

FOOD BANKS
Call for more information

Hardwick Baptist Church
478-452-1724

Lakeside Baptist Church
706-485-0835

Chard Wray Food Pantry
478-414-1126

Northside Baptist Church
478-452-6648

Middle Georgia Community Food Bank
478-742-3958

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM (OVERVIEW)
325 N. Cobb Street
478-453-4111
www.overviewinc.com

The Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion programs are designed to provide part-time opportunities for persons age 60 and over. The Foster Grandparent program offers services to children with special needs and the Senior Companion program offers services to adults with special needs. The program provides older adults with a stipend, which helps to defray the cost of their participation.

GEORGIA COLLEGE
231 W. Hancock Street
478-445-5004
1-800-342-0471
www.gcsu.edu

GCSU is committed to combining the educational experience typical of an esteemed private liberal arts college with the affordability of public higher education. More than 80-degree programs, at undergraduate and graduate levels, are offered by a faculty dedicated to fostering excellence in the classroom and beyond.

GEORGIA COLLEGE CONTINUING EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SERVICES

Chappell Hall, 100 Block North Clark Street
Georgia College
478-445-5277
478-445-4054 after hours (Campus Security)
www.gcsu.edu/ce

GCSU offers non-Credit Continuing Education courses. For Continuing Education courses, interest and a desire to learn are the only requirements. There are no educational prerequisites. Applicants are not required to send high school transcripts or take the college entrance examination to participate in the Continuing Education Program. Certificate or professional programs may require certain professional competence for entrance.

GEORGIA CRISIS ACCESS LINE (GCAL)

1-800-715-4225
If you or someone you care for has a developmental disability and is in an acute crisis situation, call the Georgia Crisis Access Line (GCAL).

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

156 Roberson Mill Road
478-445-5465
www.dol.georgia.gov
The department assists with referrals to job openings, unemployment insurance, job counseling and testing.

GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

241 Third Street
Macon, GA 31201
478-751-6261
Provides legal information except for car accidents, medical malpractice, product liability, personal injuries, etc.

GEORGIA MILITARY COLLEGE

201 East Greene Street
478-387-4900
www.gmc.cc.ga.us

Since 1879, Georgia Military College has provided an environment conducive to the development of the intellect and elevation of character. A two-year college, as well as an upper elementary, middle, and high school, Georgia Military College is dedicated to a values-based education that enables students to excel. Georgia Military College Junior and Senior High School is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

JUNIOR COLLEGE

- Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degrees
- Unique blend of military cadets and traditional students
- Exceptional academic support
- Early Commissioning Program

GOODWILL JOB CONNECTION

2596 N Columbia St, Ste. A
478-457-0090
http://www.goodwillworks.org

Goodwill builds lives, families, and communities one career at at time, by helping people develop their God given gifts through education, work, and career services.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

730 North Wayne Street
478-453-9617
http://www.milledgevillehabitat.org/

Habitat for Humanity Milledgeville-Baldwin County is an ecumenical, nonprofit Christian ministry dedicated to the elimination of substandard housing. Habitat MBC provides opportunities for families by partnering with them to build decent, affordable housing and improving the quality of life of Habitat's partner families, the neighborhoods in which they live and the community as a whole. Each partner family purchases their home with an interest-free 20-year mortgage and performs at least 300 hours of sweat equity labor on their homes and other homes being constructed.

HEARING SPECIALISTS

Carol Bashuk Belltone Hearing Aid Center
1776 N Jefferson Street NE #E
478-452-2456

Hearing Associates PC
111 Fieldstone Dr Ste 106
478-607-2836

HIGH ACHIEVERS PROGRAM

231 West Hancock Street (Georgia College)
Sequena Moon Stanton, Program Manager
(478)445-5613

The High Achievers Program supports students in afterschool and summer programming. The goal of the project is to develop civically engaged youth with the ability and knowledge to be effective leaders to younger peers and to be ambassadors of change for positive youth development.

IN OUR BEST INTEREST/ OFFICE OF SOLICITOR GENERAL

121 N. Wilkinson Street Suite 313
478-445-4445
Provides support and resources for victims of domestic violence.

LACTATION (BREASTFEEDING) SPECIALIST

Navicent Oconee Regional Medical Center
821 N. Cobb St
478-776-4000

LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER

1111 N. Jefferson Street
478-445-7176
www.baldwinlec.org

The Service Center is a day service for the mentally disabled of Baldwin County. Work training and job skills are developed through a work activity program. Contracts for work are obtained through local industries; clients are paid for completed work. All clients are adults 16 and up.

MARANATHA THRIFT STORE

327 Allen Memorial Drive
478-453-0250
This organization is an interdenominational, Christian, non-profit organization registered in the State of Georgia for the specific purpose of Christian out-reach ministry.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS OF BALDWIN COUNTY

478-387-6731

This is a non–profit organization that provides a low-priced, hot, nutritious lunch five days a week (Monday – Friday), for citizens of Milledgeville and its suburbs who cannot manage to cook for themselves. Community volunteers deliver meals directly to the homes of those requesting this service including on holidays such as Christmas or Thanksgiving when they fall on a weekday.

Fee: $2.50 per day or $12.50 per week

MILLEDGEVILLE CARES

621 South Wilkinson Street
478-457-5311
www.milledgevillecares.com

Provides services and referrals through local service agencies collaboratively working together to assist individuals in challenging situations.

MILLEDGEVILLE CHRISTIAN COUNSELING CENTER

Ministry of First United Methodist Church
366 Log Cabin Road
478-456-6219

MILLEDGEVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
RESIDENCE SERVICES

545 Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd
478-445-2914

The Housing Authority provides decent, safe and sanitary housing for the citizens of Baldwin County.

Applicants Must:

- Qualify as a family, elderly, or disabled.
- Not exceed Applicable annual income limits for admissions.
- Have a satisfactory housing record and rent paying habits.
- Not be a detriment to the health, safety or welfare of neighbors or the community.
- Not be a source of danger to the peaceful occupancy by the other tenants or cause danger to the premises or property of the Authority.
- Conform to the Occupancy Standards set forth for admission.

MILLEDGEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

125 West McIntosh Street
478-414-4000 or 911
www.milledgevillepd.com

Provides law enforcement services to the citizens of the City of Milledgeville. This service is available for calls within the department's service area 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

www.narcotics.com/na-meetings/georgia/milledgeville

Check website for local meeting dates and times.

NAVICENT HEALTH BALDWIN / OCONEE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

821 N. Cobb Street
478-776-4000
https://www.navicenthealth.org/nhb/home

Services Provided:
Navicent Health is fully qualified to handle a broad range of medical, surgical, pediatric, obstetric and gynecological problems. The emergency department is a level III Trauma Center, with qualified physicians on duty.

OCONEE CENTER

478-445-4817
1241 Orchard Hill Road
www.oconeecenter.com

Adult Mental Health Services	Addictive Disease Services	Child and Adolescents Services
478-445-4721	478-445-5518	478-445-5322

The Oconee Community Service Board is a public, non-profit agency organized to provide Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Addictive Diseases in the six county areas including: Baldwin, Hancock, Jasper, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson

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OVERVIEW, INC.

325 N. Cobb Street
478-453-4111
www.**overview**inc.com

Energy Assistance - The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) provides heating assistance to low-income families in the seven county Oconee Area.

Commodities – U.S.D.A. commodities are distributed to eligible households in the Oconee Area twice each program year. Commodities are distributed based on the amount of surplus food received. Clients are selected on a first come, first serve basis.

Prescription Program – Assist eligible clients by purchasing prescription medication. The clients will be referred by a physician or by the Oconee Regional Medical Center. Eligible clients may be assisted once each program year.

PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

General

Oconee Valley Healthcare
510 N. Cobb street
478-414-1414

J. I. L. Family Healthcare Center
325A North Cobb St.
478-453-2606

Milledgeville Family Practice
540 W. Thomas St. Suite B
478-453-9435

Milledgeville Internal Medicine
1211 N. Columbia Dr.
478-452-1780

Oconee Family Medicine Center
800 W. Thomas St.
478-453-9346

Obstetrics

Milledgeville OB/GYN Associates
750 North N. Cobb St., Ste 240
478-453-8511

The Woman's Care Center
1001 Fernwood Dr.
478-453-8100

Pediatrics

Kids First Pediatrics
530 North Cobb St.
478-453-1020

Milledgeville Pediatrics
750 North Cobb St., Ste 230
478-453-9383

Pediatrics "R" Us
1015 Fernwood Dr.
478-452-3835

RANDSTAD STAFFING AGENCY

1952 North Columbia Street
478-453-9212
The Randstad Milledgeville staffing agency has recruiters readily available to help with your next career move.

RIVERBEND APARTMENTS

441 East McIntosh Street
Office – Apt. 6-I
478-452-6888

Provides housing for low income families, disabled and elderly persons.

RIVER EDGE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER

Blandy Way Office Parks 60
GA Highway 22 W
Milledgeville, GA 31061
478-451-2700
Crisis Center- 478-451-2797
www.river-edge.org

River Edge is a provider of mental health and addictive disease services to all ages. They offer a confidential and pleasant setting with extended hours to meet everyone's schedule. Medicaid, Medicare, and some forms of private insurance are accepted. A sliding fee scale is used for those without insurance.

The Baldwin County site provides services in the areas of:

- Adult Mental Health
- Adult Addictive Disease
- Child/Adolescent and Family Therapy
- Adolescent Addictive Disease

SACRED HEART HELPING HANDS

110 N. Jefferson Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061
478-454-8634

Sacred Heart Helping Hands provides Emergency Financial Assistance for citizens in the Baldwin County provided by referrals from citizens, agencies, churches, schools and other district support offices on **Tuesdays between the hours of 9 a.m to 11 a.m.**

SALVATION ARMY COMMUNITY CENTER / THRIFT SHOP

461 East Hancock Street
478-452-6940
Social Services
478-452-8737
www.salvationarmy.org

The Salvation Army is a non-profit religious and charitable organization available to assist people in need regardless of race, color, age or sex. They provide used clothing at a reasonable price.
The store is open to the public and donations are welcomed.
The Salvation Army is a United Way Agency.
Types of assistance available: Emergency, Food, Shelter, Clothing, Utilities, Financial

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

109 Cypress Corners
1-866-331-2214
www.ssa.gov/atlanta/southeast/ga/georgia.htm

The Social Security Administration Office administers the retirement, survivors, disability and Medicare programs under the Social Security Act.
Administers the SSI Program by processing and paying claims for Aged, Blind, Disabled person in need.

Other Services Consist of Processing:

- Applications for Social Security numbers or replacement cards
- Medicare insurance payment claims
- Maintain up-dated records on the computer systems such as address changes, change in earnings, and change in family status

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SOURCE CARE MANAGEMENT (NON-PROFIT)

951 Harmony Rd., Suite 104
Eatonton, GA
478-621-2070 ext. 2583

Provides help for those on government assistance/disability (Medicaid, SSI)- food, medical, transportation, personal care -Long-term health services (including prime care, aides, skilled nursing) for elderly, disabled and low income patients.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN BALDWIN COUNTY SCHOOLS

110 North ABC Street
478-453-4176
https://www.baldwincountyschoolsga.org/special-education

The Baldwin County School System believes all students can unlock their potential by striving for and maintaining educational excellence. Our schools aim to meet the educational needs of all the students. Exceptional students require specially designed instruction to meet their unique needs. Baldwin County PEC Program serves students according to individual exceptionalities and educational needs:

Autism	Emotional/Behavior Disorder	Hearing Impaired
Intellectually Disabled (includes mild, moderate profound, severe)	Orthopedically Impaired	Other Health Impaired
	Preschool Special Education (significantly developmentally delayed)	Specific Learning Impaired
		Speech & Learning Impaired
Traumatic Brain Injured	Visually Impaired	Community Based Instruction

School transportation is provided in special lift buses when necessary. Psychologists provide psychological services at the schools. Adaptive P.E. is provided for disabled students when needed. Social Workers serve families/students of enrolled disabled students. Full-time paraprofessionals assist in the special education classrooms when needed.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger because of thoughts of suicide please call 911 now!

If you are not in immediate danger because of thoughts of suicide, but need someone to talk with about your suicidal feelings, please do not hesitate to call one of the following national suicide prevention lines:
1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433)
1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)
or 988

Local Crisis Help Line, 24 hours / 7 days:
(478) 445-HELP (4357)

TAX ASSISTANCE (FREE FILING)

Check this website:
https://www.irs.gov/filing/free-file-do-your-federal-taxes-for-free

TWIN LAKES LIBRARY SYSTEM

Mary Vinson Memorial Library
151 South Jefferson Street
478-452-0677

Lake Sinclair Library
130 Log Cabin Road, Unit D
478-452-6522

The main library opened in 1976. It seats more than 200 people, and has separate children's area with an amphitheater and puppet theatre. Summer reading clubs and children's activities keep the youth of Baldwin County interested in reading. The public library is for residents of the seven county region. Computers are available for use as well as internet services. Telephone reference service and photocopies (fee applies) are available. Large print books for anyone with slight visual problems are also available. Talking books program for the visually and physically handicapped persons is offered. To obtain a library card one must be a resident to the seven county area.
ID is required along with a current mailing address.

UTILITY RESOURCES

Tri-County Electric Membership Company
310 West Clinton Street
Gray, Georgia
478-986-8100
www.tri-countyemc.com

Washington Electric Membership Company
500 East Hancock Street
Milledgeville, Georgia
478-552-2577
www.washingtonemc.com

Georgia Power Company
866-702-1864
www.georgiapower.com

UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL GEORGIA

301 Mulberry St. Macon GA 31201
478-745-4732
www.**unitedway**cg.org

United Way assist in the following agencies/associations:

Sickle Cell Anemia
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Boy Scouts
Boys Club of Milledgeville
Advocacy Program
Baldwin County Citizens
Reading Is Fundamental
Red Cross
Girl Scouts
Salvation Army
Travelers Aid Association of America
Emergency Fund for the Indigent

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

2930 Heritage Place
Suite 102
478-445-4781
www.gvs.ga.gov

Rehabilitation services are available as follows: Vocational counseling, guidance and job placement, artificial appliances, physical restoration (medical and psychological), physical and occupational therapy, vocational training, maintenance and transportation, tools, licenses and equipment, and on-the-job supervision to help clients make necessary adjustments. They work with all agencies in the area in an effort to provide services for eligible clients with disabilities.

WATER RESOURCES

Baldwin County Water Department
3014 Heritage Road
478-445-4237

Milledgeville Water Department
119 E. Hancock Street
478-414-4040

WINDSTREAM TELEPHONE COMPANY

750 North Jefferson Street
1-800-501-1776 – Billing Services
1-800-537-7755 – Payment Arrangements
1-800-501-1754 – Residential Services
1-800-582-3132 – En Espanol
www.Windstream.com

They provide local telephone and Internet services to residents and businesses as well as directory assistance. They also have exemptions for the blind and hearing-impaired handsets that have a monthly charge.

YOUTH ENRICHMENT SERVICES (YES) OF BALDWIN COUNTY

Director: Sequena Moon Stanton
478-445-5613

Youth Enrichment Services of Baldwin County Georgia

Through 21st Century Community Learning Center grants, the YES Program exists to raise achievement and educational aspirations for Baldwin County elementary, middle, and high school students as well as their adult family members. YES seeks to increase graduation rates, nurture and inspire curiosity, and realize deeper levels of literacy. For more information on the YES Program, call 478-445-5613.



SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCES

Atrium Health Navicent Children's Care Pediatric Developmental and Behavioral Health
1014 Forsyth Street
Macon, GA 31201
https://www.navicenthealth.org/adcnh
https://www.navicenthealth.org/adcnh/resources
478.633.8100

Babies Can't Wait - Department of Public Health
Baldwin County Health Department
100 Ireland Drive
Milledgeville, GA 31061
https://dph.georgia.gov/Babies-Cant-Wait
478.445.4264

Baldwin County School District
110 North ABC Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061
https://www.baldwincountyschoolsga.org/special-education-resources
https://www.baldwincountyschoolsga.org/student-support-services
https://www.baldwincountyschoolsga.org/n-parents-tools-resources
478.453.4176

Bright from the Start - Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE
754 East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
http://families.decal.ga.gov/Family/Disability
888.442.7735

Children's Medical Services
201 2nd Street
Macon, GA 31201
http://northcentralhealthdistrict.org/childrens-medical-services/
478.751.6253

Georgia Department of Education - Special Education Services and Supports
205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE
Atlanta, GA 30334
http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Special-Education-Services/Pages/default.aspx
800.311.3627

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Two Peachtree Street, NW
24th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/
404.657.2252

Head Start - Administration for Children & Families
Early Learning Center
100 North ABC Street
Milledgeville, GA 30161
478.457.2461
https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/children-disabilities

Parent to Parent of Georgia
3070 Presidential Parkway, Suite 130
Atlanta, Georgia 30340
http://p2pga.org/
800.229.2038



ORIENTATION DOCUMENTS

POLICY COUNCIL-

(A) IN GENERAL- Consistent with paragraph (1)(E), each Head Start agency shall have a policy council responsible for the direction of the Head Start program, including program design and operation, and long- and short-term planning goals and objectives, taking into account the annual community wide strategic planning and needs assessment and self-assessment.

(B) COMPOSITION AND SELECTION-

(i) The policy council shall be elected by the parents of children who are currently enrolled in the Head Start program of the Head Start agency.

(ii) The policy council shall be composed of--

(I) parents of children who are currently enrolled in the Head Start program of the Head Start agency (including any delegate agency), who shall constitute a majority of the members of the policy council; and

(II) members at large of the community served by the Head Start agency (including any delegate agency), who may include parents of children who were formerly enrolled in the Head Start program of the agency.

(C) CONFLICT OF INTEREST- Members of the policy council shall-

(i) not have a conflict of interest with the Head Start agency (including any delegate agency); and

(ii) not receive compensation for serving on the policy council or for providing services to the Head Start agency.

(D) RESPONSIBILITIES- The policy council shall approve and submit to the governing body decisions about each of the following activities:

(i) Activities to support the active involvement of parents in supporting program operations, including policies to ensure that the Head Start agency is responsive to community and parent needs.

(ii) Program recruitment, selection, and enrollment priorities.

(iii) Applications for funding and amendments to applications for funding for programs under this subchapter, prior to submission of applications described in this clause.

(iv) Budget planning for program expenditures, including policies for reimbursement and participation in policy council activities.

(v) Bylaws for the operation of the policy council.

(vi) Program personnel policies and decisions regarding the employment of program staff, consistent with paragraph (1)(E)(iv)(IX), including standards of conduct for program staff, contractors, and volunteers and criteria for the employment and dismissal of program staff.

(vii) Developing procedures for how members of the policy council of the Head Start agency will be elected.

(viii) Recommendations on the selection of delegate agencies and the service areas for such agencies.

1301.3 Policy council and policy committee.

(a) *Establishing policy councils and policy committees*. Each agency must establish and maintain a policy council responsible for the direction of the Head Start program at the agency level, and a policy committee at the delegate level. If an agency delegates operational responsibility for the entire Head Start or Early Head Start program to one delegate agency, the policy council and policy committee may be the same body.

(b) *Composition*. (1) A program must establish a policy council in accordance with section 642(c)(2)(B) of the Act, or a policy committee at the delegate level in accordance with section 642(c)(3) of the Act, as early in the program year as possible. Parents of children currently enrolled in each program option must be proportionately represented on the policy council and on the policy committee at the delegate level.

(2) The program must ensure members of the policy council, and of the policy committee at the delegate level, do not have a conflict of interest pursuant to sections 642(c)(2)(C) and 642(c)(3)(B) of the Act. Staff may not serve on the policy council or policy committee at the delegate level except parents who occasionally substitute as staff. In the case of tribal grantees, this exclusion applies only to tribal staff who work in areas directly related to or which directly impact administrative, fiscal, or programmatic issues.

(c) *Duties and responsibilities*. (1) A policy council is responsible for activities specified at section 642(c)(2)(D) of the Act. A policy committee must approve and submit to the delegate agency its decisions in each of the following areas referenced at section 642(c)(2)(D)(i) through (vii) of the Act.

(2) A policy council, and a policy committee at the delegate level, must use ongoing monitoring results, data on school readiness goals, other information described in §1302.102, and information described in section 642(d)(2) of the Act to conduct its responsibilities.

(d) *Term*. (1) A member will serve for one year.

(2) If the member intends to serve for another year, s/he must stand for re-election.

(3) The policy council, and policy committee at the delegate level, must include in its bylaws how many one-year terms, not to exceed five terms, a person may serve.

(4) A program must seat a successor policy council, or policy committee at the delegate level, before an existing policy council, or policy committee at the delegate level, may be dissolved.

(e) *Reimbursement*. A program must enable low-income members to participate fully in their policy council or policy committee responsibilities by providing, if necessary, reimbursements for reasonable expenses incurred by the low-income members.

FAMILY ADVOCATES ARE YOUR COMMUNICATION LINE TO THE ELC!

REASONS TO REACH OUT TO YOUR ADVOCATE:

WHEN YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH COMPLETING REQUIRED PRESCHOOL PAPERWORK, PROVIDING INFORMATION RELATED TO MOVING, OBTAINING GED, ENROLLING IN COLLEGE, EMPLOYMENT (FILLING OUT APPLICATIONS AND HELP WITH RESUMES), OBTAINING AND EXPLAINING HEALTH DOCUMENTATION, ASSISTANCE WITH TRANSPORTATION TO REQUIRED MEETINGS OR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS, HELP WITH COMPLETING MEDICAL FORMS, ASSISTANCE WITH SCHEDULING MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS AND SECURING MEDICAL/DENTAL HOME, PROVIDING ASSISTANCE DURING FAMILY CRISES.

IMPORTANT: CONTACT YOUR ADVOCATE ANYTIME YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO ABSENT!



ELC'S PARENT CONTRACT 2026-2027

Please read carefully and initial each policy.

1. All children must have up-to-date health documents which may include immunization, physical, dental, and EED by August 5, 2026. _____
2. Each child must have all of the appropriate enrollment/intake forms completed before August 5th, 2026. _____
3. In order to involve parents in their child's education and ensure that they are aware of their child's progress throughout the school year, two mandatory parent conferences, and two home visits may be conducted. _____
4. The Early Learning Center must obtain written authorization from the parent/guardian before the child participates in: routine transportation, field trips, and/or special activities away from the center. It is critical that you CHECK BOOKBAGS/FOLDERS when they are sent home. _____
5. The ELC does not permit any outside food to be brought in with the exception of pre-arranged celebrations. In accordance with Head Start Standards and our program policy, students are not permitted to bring lunch from home. This policy helps ensure that all children receive nutritionally balanced meals that meet federal guidelines and supports health and safety of all students. _____
6. School hours are from 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Children will be counted tardy after 7:45 a.m. Children will not be allowed to enter or leave the center without being escorted by parent(s), person(s) authorized by the parent, or facility personnel. _____

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7. **ELC Tardy Procedures Are As Follows:**
    a. **Excessive tardies are defined as more than two per month .**

    _____
    b. **Once your child exceeds two within a month, this will be addressed verbally by your family advocate either in person or by phone.** _____
    c. **If you continue to bring your child in late after the verbal conversation, a formal meeting will be held with family services and the family service manager, during which time a tardy contract will be initiated.** _____
    d. **Continued excessive tardies beyond the signed contract may result in unenrollment as we have a standing waitlist.** _____
8. **Parents needing to speak to their child's teacher should either call the main office to leave a message or use Class DoJo. Teachers will not be able to meet with parents during instructional times.** _____
9. **Permanent changes to transportation must be submitted in person at the front desk of the ELC. Day to day changes of transportation are not possible.** _____
10. **Morning car rider procedures: All morning car riders must enter through the front entrance. The car rider line will be staffed by ELC personnel and will be available for morning drop off from 7:15 AM until 7:45 AM. After 7:45 AM, you must park in the large parking lot by the playground, sign your child in at the front office, and escort them to class.** _____

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11. **Afternoon Car Rider Procedures: Afternoon car riders must be picked up between 2:00-2:30 using the car rider line. You must remain in your vehicle and have an age-appropriate car seat for your child. We are unable to release students to vehicles without a car seat. You will be asked to go and get one before we can release your child. Furthermore, if you arrive after 2:30 p.m., the following flow of events will be implemented:**
    a. **After 2:30, staff will begin calling emergency contacts. _____**
    b. **Emergency contacts have until 2:45 p.m. to arrive before your child is placed in our fee-based, after-school program as our staff will be off duty at this time. Fee will be expected at the time of pickup. _____**
    c. **Excessive (more than two per month) late pick-ups may result in unenrollment. _____**
    d. **If we are unable to locate anyone listed on the supplement list after 3:00 p.m., we will then make contact with our district social worker for further guidance. _____**
12. **Bus Rider Procedures: Bus transportation to/from the ELC program is provided, however, seats are limited as we only have three buses. Once we have reached bus rider capacity, remaining parents will be expected to bring their child to school by the designated arrival time. Proper bus conduct must be observed by students to use this service. More than 2 behavior write-ups will cause your child to lose bus privileges for the remainder of the semester. All individuals on the supplemental list must be prepared to present picture identification at the drop-off. We are not allowed to release students without identification. _____**

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12. **(cont.) Parents (or authorized persons) are required to escort their children to the bus and from the bus at stops. Children riding morning routes should arrive early to the bus stop to avoid missing the bus. Parents should report early to the afternoon stops to receive their children as soon as the bus arrives. Please understand buses may arrive 15-20 minutes early or late, depending on the number of riders that day. Please do not follow the bus as bus riders can only be released at the address listed on the supplement. Students returned to the ELC due to the absence of an authorized person to receive them at the stop will lose access to bus transportation after three incidents of being returned to the school. _____**
13. **No child should report to school if he/she has been sick, vomiting, or had a fever of 100.0 or higher during the night(s). No child should report to school if he/she has been sick, has been diagnosed with COVID-19, or has been contacted by the health department or health care provider to advise you to quarantine/isolate. _____**
14. **Parents will be contacted when a child becomes ill or has a fever of 100.0 or higher with symptoms at school. Parents will need to make arrangements to have the child transported home immediately. A child may return to school when the following criteria are met:**
    a. **A healthcare provider notes the child can return to the program without danger to self or others. _____**
    b. **The child is symptom free for 24 hours without medication. _____**
    c. **The child is well enough to participate fully in the ELC daily routine. _____**

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15. A Medication Authorization Form must be completed before any prescription can be administered at school. Prescription medication must be provided in its original labeled container with the child's name and specific timed instructions or administration directions. No medication should be transported to or from school by a preschool student. If your child uses Albuterol for wheezing or cough, the ELC will require a copy of their Asthma Plan from their pediatrician. _____
16. Parents and local health officials will be notified as appropriate if a contagious disease arises at the ELC. If a child has been diagnosed with a contagious disease it is the parents responsibility to notify the school. Students can return to school with a doctor note stating the child is no longer contagious and includes a return date to school. Without a note from the doctor, your child will not be able to remain at school. _____
17. Parents should select clothes for their children to wear to school with the knowledge that daily activities may cause soiling. Parents are asked to send a change of clothing to school for their child including underwear and socks. Clothing should be labeled. Keep sizes and seasons in mind. _____
18. The ELC Dress Code Policy is as follows: A. No spaghetti straps or tank tops permitted B. No open-toe shoes, flip flops, slides, or Crocs. It is also strongly recommended that your child not wear hair beads as they are a choking hazard as well as a safety issue. _____
19. Parents should notify the school if child has any allergies. Documentation from your child's doctor must be provided about the child's allergy. _____

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____