

BERRYHILL CHILD CARE



“Where Learning to LEARN is FUN”

5762 Berryhill Rd, Milton, FL

850-623-4509

contact@berryhillchildcare.com or berryhillchildcare@gmail.com

*We are currently enrolling for the 2016-2017 School year for VPK. *

VPK FAQ

What is VPK?

VPK is a state funded Pre-K program for children who live in Florida and turn 4 before September 1st of the given school year. (There is no cost to you) Classes are offered throughout the state at various locations including Berryhill Child Care. We typically offer 4 classes each year. We currently operate 4 classes. Each class is three hours long. Class times are 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 10:30 am, and 12:00pm we expect this to be our schedule for the upcoming 2016-2017 School year. VPK stands for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten, and is not a requirement for children. Once registered there are, however, attendance requirements that have to be met to complete the program. Centers are evaluated on performance, and attendance plays a major role in performance.

Tell me about your program.

Our VPK Program operates in sync with the Santa Rosa county Schools Schedule for the given year. This means that VPK is generally in session when school is in session, and generally not when school is not. The exceptions would our may be when there is a teacher planning day (about three per year) we still have VPK, and when there is an emergency closure we may still have VPK, depending on the conditions. (Safety first). We will provide a copy of our schedule at orientation.

We use the Creative Curriculum in all of our Classes. Assessments are conducted three times per year using two separate assessment method. The pre-approved VPK Assessment, and Teaching Strategies Gold. We will also include a take home report card as well. Assessments are conducted in September, January, and May of the given school year. Our goal is help each child be ready for kindergarten, by preparing them not only academically, but socially and physically as well.

Our teachers are all certified in early childhood education, and all certified and experienced in teaching pre-kindergarten students. Our program offers learning through structure and play. We come highly recommended in this area and we welcome visits to our current VPK class programs.

How do I know if my child can attend?

It is simple. If your child is 4 before September first but not 5 before September 1st of the given school year, and is a Florida resident then he/she qualifies. If you have just moved here or are moving here, you can still register. Contact the Early Learning Coalition for more information on qualifications.

How do I get a Voucher and Register?

To receive your child's voucher for VPK; go online to <http://www.elcsantarosa.org/> and click on the parent tab, and then the voluntary pre-K tab. Finally, click on the register online for VPK. You will be required to upload some documents, including a birth certificate and a copy of a utility bill for resident verification. If you do not have the capability to do this, we can help. When complete, a voucher will be available to print. This voucher is what holds your child's place in our VPK program. You must bring in the voucher to our center and we can help you complete the registration process.

To complete your registration with Berryhill Childcare we need a completed enrollment application. (This can be found at berryhillchildcare.com or you can pick one up at the center, or we can email you the forms.) You will also need to bring in a copy of your child's Shot record (on Florida form DH 680), and current physical. If you do not have these, we will need them before your child can start class. You will also need to choose a class time. We fill our program each year and maintain a waiting list so there is a time crunch to reserve a place in our program. Each of these documents are necessary for enrollment. Without all of these documents, your child's place in our program is not guaranteed.

Can I tour your center first?

If you are interested in coming in to tour, and to see what we have to offer, please contact the office at 850-623-4509. Or by email at berryhillchildcare@gmail.com, or contact@berryhillchildcare.com. We can also be reached on our Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/berryhillchildcare/>. We generally like to schedule tours after 9:30 am and before 12 pm, and after 2:30 pm due to our nap schedule. Please call to schedule.

Do you offer additional care beyond VPK?

There is no cost to parents for VPK. The voucher is your ticket to be accepted into a program. The only two requirements are the child must be four before September 1st, and you must be a Florida resident. We do, however offer After care, or often referred to as Extended care for all VPK Students. Our hours of operation are from 6:15am to 6pm M-F. We closed on some major federal holidays. Children in our extended day program can come in as early as 6:15am and stay until we close at 6pm. We offer Breakfast, Lunch and an Afternoon Snack. Children in our extended day program will be with one of our 4 year old classrooms when not in VPK. The cost for this care is currently \$85.00/week. (Subject to change) We require a \$35.00 registration fee, per family, not per child. (This is an annual fee)

What does my child need for VPK?

We ask that all children have a backpack, and preferably at least one change of clothes daily. The backpack is for the children to get used to the way things will work in elementary school. The change of clothes are for any accidents that may occur. The clothes will remain in the backpack unless the child is in our extended care program. We will put out a list of supplies in advance and post it to our site. A copy will be available at our centers during the summer.

Will there be an orientation?

We hold a yearly orientation in early August for our VPK program. At this time we will discuss our program further and what to expect. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for choosing Berryhill Child Care.