Our Mission

To ensure our youngest learners' success in school and beyond.

About Us

The three early childhood programs in Alachua County Public Schools:
~ Pre-K ESE
~ VPK
~ HIPPY

work together to provide high quality and equitable early childhood education services to preschool age children in our community in an effort to eliminate any achievement gaps for our students throughout their PreK-12 school experiences.

Pre-K ESE Department

📍 Fearnside Family Services Center
3600 NE 15th St. Gainesville, FL. 32609

📞 Kelly Brill Jones, ESE Supervisor
352-955-7676, Ext. 1630

VPK & HIPPY Administrative Office:

📍 Duval Early Learning Academy
2106 NE 8th Ave. Gainesville, FL. 32641

📞 352-955-6703
VPK extensions 2123 & 2106
HIPPY extension 2102

VPK Program:
Trisha Rodriguez, VPK Administrative Coordinator
Jerri Richardson, Program Services Coordinator

HIPPY Program:
Stacey Williams, Program Services Coordinator

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Pre-K Website:
www.sbac.edu/prek

Follow us on Facebook at:
@acpsprek

Alachua County Public Schools

A Pre-K through 12th grade district

Early Childhood Education Programs

Pre-K ESE

Age: 3 to 5 years old

Pre-Kindergarten Exceptional Student Education Department

Are you concerned that your child may have difficulty with learning, speaking, playing, seeing, walking or hearing?

Do you know that you can have your child screened? Did you know that the public school provides services for qualifying children?

EVALUATION PROCESS

REFERRAL TO FDLRS: Parent Contacts FDLRS (see contact info below)

SCREENING: Parent Completes & Returns the FDLRS Screening Forms

REFERRAL TO ESE: FDLRS will review the screening forms and submit the request for an evaluation to the ACPS Pre-K ESE Office & notify the parent if an evaluation is needed.
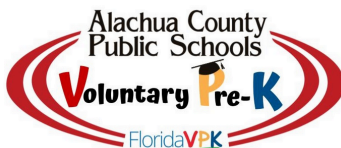
SCHEDULE EVALUATION: Family will register in Skyward & will be contacted by the ACPS Pre-K ESE office to schedule the evaluation

EVALUATION: Child is evaluated by the ACPS Pre-K ESE Evaluation Team

STAFFING: Family attends the Staffing Appointment with the ACPS Pre-K ESE Evaluation Team. Results are reviewed and a determination is made regarding the child's eligibility for an IEP and ESE Services.

Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System
1-800-533-0326
352-671-6051
https://springs.fdlrs.org

VPK

Age: 4 years old by Sept. 1st

Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program

✔ Will your child by 4 years old by September 1st for that school year?

✔ Is your family zoned to an Alachua County Public School VPK Location?

ACPS VPK Offers:
- No cost VPK Program
- Full School Day
- Hands-on Learning
- Nurturing Environment
- Engaging Research-Based Curriculum
- Qualified Early Childhood Staff

How to Apply:

step 1
To apply for the Alachua County Public Schools VPK Program, please submit an application online at: https://tinyurl.com/ACPS-VPK

step 2
To apply for your child's VPK Voucher (Certificate of Eligibility) go to: https://familyservices.floridaearlylearning.com

Locations:
Visit our website at www.sbac.edu/vpk for a list of current VPK School Locations. Space is limited so don't delay...apply today!

Days & Times:
Monday-Friday 7:30am to 1:30pm
Early Release Wednesdays 12:30pm
Times may vary slightly by location
VPK follows the ACPS School Calendar

DIVISION OF Early Learning
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.
https://www.floridaearlylearning.com

Florida VPK
https://elcalachua.org/vpk

HIPPY

Age: 2 to 5 years old

Home Instruction of Parents of Preschool Youngsters

What is HIPPY?
HIPPY is an evidence-based home visiting program designed to improve children's outcomes by supporting parents in their role as their child's first and most important teacher. Families meet virtually or in person with the HIPPY Mentor for 45 minutes each week.

What is included

- 30 weeks of fun and engaging curriculum that includes materials for hands-on activities

- Each set consists of carefully developed materials, curriculum, and books designed to
  - Improve language and listening skills
  - Expand vocabulary
  - Strengthen children's social & emotional development
  - Prepare children for academic success

- Engaging parent group meetings

- Parenting resources

If you would like to learn more about the HIPPY Program, please complete the Interest Form

https://forms.gle/14fT9eRERc8iKWNV6

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FloridaHIPPY
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters
http://floridahippy.fmhi.usf.edu/