



Durham Early Care and Education Study-Provider Surveys Comprehensive Responses to Open-Ended Comment Questions

If you answered “not at all interested” above [...interested in becoming a Durham PreK site], please indicate your hesitation to becoming a Durham PreK site.

- Because we are a part time program.
- Concerned about being a faith based location.
- Curriculum, teacher pay and vacations.
- Hesitancy because we want to maintain the Spanish Immersion component of our program and also a concern about how many visits would be required to the center that might disrupt the children's routines.
- I don't have the space or the money to make the necessary changes. Also, I'm renting on-site in a church so I don't have the authority to make the renovations that may be needed to accommodate pre-k children.
- It wouldn't be of interest since I'm a home provider.
- lack of money, low wages
- Not interested, currently have other interest to advance our program
- Not taking any government funding because of rules and regulations that may change values later in the future.
- Not very familiar with what it is, what would be expected, etc.
- only have 1 pre-k classroom and center is full
- owner won't allow
- Possibly...would need to talk to board.
- Private non profit
- Religious church program
- space
- Staff
- We are currently an NC Pre-K site, but I would not be able to make that decision. The District Manager would have to make that decision so she cannot respond to the above question.
- We are sponsored by the EPA and required to give priority to federal employees and can only take the general public on a limited basis. We would not be able to set aside a certain number of slots for the Durham Pre-K Initiative without completely changing how we operate. However, we are supportive of the Initiative and think it is needed and important.
- This center is only for infants -2 year old
- This is an Independent Montessori School, not a child care center.
- We are a nonprofit program utilizing a free space and unable to be licensed there. We also use emergent curriculum and do not want to be forced to use a curriculum in a box. We have amazing teachers whose education levels would also be a problem for licensing.
- We are a part-time preschool program and have no intentions of extending our program hours.

- We are a small non-profit Program and I would not want our core to change.
- We are accredited by SAIS not by the State.
- We do not want to have to conform to a state curriculum.
- We don't have the capacity
- We have been an exemplary program for almost 30 years. Our teachers do lots of documentation of each child's development. I would not want their current work detracted from with Pre-K paperwork and restrictions/regulations.
- We would need to have a blended classroom. In the past, we learned that the Pre-K students and teachers were not to be at the program during public school breaks. This would leave private-paying children without regular teachers and regular group dynamics during portions of our calendar.
- Will churches be a parent option verses county option
- willing to increase our nc prek programs

Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about your program or about any concerns or issues you have with the possibility of Durham Expanding pre-k options for four year olds?

- I have only 2 stars, but parents who come and see my program say they don't care about that, they care about how I treat the children, the space that I have, etc. and when preschool programs get children from my center, they are happy with what they know and can do.
- A lot of changes would need to take place in order to be a Pre-k site.
- Accredited program through AMS.
- At this time, I have extreme concerns about the tools determining 5-star quality. There is a great focus on materials and equipment. . . very little focus upon imagination, creativity, relationships. I would be concerned that a public funded PreK would have quality short-changed and become another layer of bland, limited public schooling.
- Center lost 17 kids last year; center has mostly subsidy so has a significant concern about losing children to a program like this.
- center not able to expand on site.
- concern about transportation and meals for students
- Currently private child care programs "lose" children in the pre-k year to private schools who offer k-8 education and to public pre-k programs. To be able to compete, private child care programs need to be able to pay pre-k teachers on the same level as other programs and to be able to offer benefits and incentives to encourage teachers to stay. We also need teachers to have opportunities to pursue bachelors degrees and B-K license programs (such as the TEACH program) which are affordable and can be pursued while still working full time. The challenge is to keep child care affordable for parents while paying teachers a competitive wage. WAGES is a great benefit. A further concern for private faith based programs is whether we can use tax dollars to fund children in a program which is the mission of a church.
- Depends on if DPS is awarded additional slots this could impact my program ability to thrive.
- Duke employees, students, staff, faculty only
- Extremely concerned. We are already losing money to DPS being allotted pre-k slots. It would be hard to compete and stay open if you program is not allocated spots.
- Feel strongly about our enrollment so not worried about losing enrollment; We have a specific audience that we cater to who will come regardless; excited about the possibility of being a Durham Pre-K site to help more children.
- funds to help

- Further conversations and second survey should be done through Kara to discuss both locations. This site only hosts EHS for 1 and 2 year olds and NC Pre-K for 4 year olds. There are currently no private pay families located at this site.
- I am concerned about continued segregation of Durham's people if low income families are first targeted to fill classrooms. I am concerned about quality and available workforce for a wide scale pre-k effort.
- I have teachers ready to enroll in classes to get their bk license.
- I support universal pre-k in Durham, and am concerned about its quality as part of DPS.
- I think American kids can benefit from Mandarin as a second language. The kids do really well with math when they go to kindergarten. This School has been around for over 10 years.
- I think it is a good idea provided they keep an equitable balance of public/private partnership. Our business success (ability to grow/reinvest in our programs, employee 18-20 people per school in Durham County, pay taxes, etc) depends upon us having our centers full and revenue coming in. A complete loss of 4 years olds to the Durham school system would financially devastate many of Durham's private preschools.
- If (and when) Durham expand pre-K for 4 years old children this will definitely hurt private child care business. We have already seen a decrease in child enrollment. Parents will not pay private rates when they can send their children for FREE. Would You? I hope someone will consider that. Child care centers and homes are businesses. In order to survive, we need the children.
- Innovative program with happy parents, teachers, and children
- Interest in who can control the enrollment due to sibling preferences.
- Is this like NC PreK where we have to get teachers with BK license? Once I hear more about it, I might be interested. Not sure yet.
- Make sure that it is a structured program with options for Christian faith families, and Kindergarten readiness skills
- Montessori and 1/2 day programs should be an option for families if the Durham Pre-k moves forward with expanding. The Montessori framework works wonderfully for some students and falls under the nonpublic education
- Montessori school philosophy is an interest to some parents that brings families in!
- My home would not be ideal for a prek program
- My hope is that these programs are based on developmentally appropriate standards and are play based with plenty of hands-on materials for children. I hope that well trained and compensated teachers are the skilled facilitators who design an emergent curriculum geared to whole child development. I hope that there is plenty of outdoor play and learning.
- My other location has students that come from Duke and hold high quality standards
- None at this time. Although, I'm in this field of early childhood education, education should be free to all from birth through college.
- not all enrolled live in durham county
- Not sure about questions at this time or even if I am concerned about loss of enrollment because this is all new to me, and I haven't had time to think about it.
- only licensed for 12, not looking to add on to home
- Parent involvement is paramount in the development of young minds. Our schedule and grounds also contribute to the success of our program.
- Please focus on children not currently enrolled in full or part-time care. Those who are already being served should not be the priority. There are so many children who have not been enrolled in any school program prior to kindergarten and those need to be the priority.

- Pre-k children should be a top priority because the learning at this age is crucial especially for children who can't afford private programs. TAPC is a Christian half day program with small class sizes. Class size is important to consider if it will be offered to all kids.
- Public preschool program options
- I think it would help my single parents to not be stressed to find a pre-K program. I have some 4 year olds who weren't able to get into pre-K program.
- The local construction a concern for the parents pertaining to drop off and pick up
- The possibility of loss of enrollment.
- There are many high quality preschools in Durham that have been providing an exceptional preschool and Pre-K experience. We have State certified teachers who are experts in the field of early childhood education. Utilizing existing facilities should be used for preschool expansion instead of creating new spaces.
- There is a huge need for high quality child care for Durham
- Thinks it will be great if its expanding into the daycare.
- This program is fairly new - less than one year old, and we are still trying to increase enrollment so that we can hire new and higher qualified teachers.
- We are an educational based facility. We currently teach our pre-k school readiness. We use a child assessment tool to determine domain development.
- We would be concerned about how receiving public funds affects our autonomy as a private institution. However, we are seeking ways to increase our socio-economic diversity and to support parents in a quality education for their child. Also, because our classrooms are multiage classrooms with 3 year spans, we would prefer to have consistent support for 3 and 4 year olds since their sensitive period for developing language is at the younger ages.
- We would be willing to meet the program standards to become a Pre K site
- We would love to be a site for Durham PreK.
- Will speak directly to the appropriate parties later in the process.

What else do you want us to know about your converting and/or expanding slots for a Durham PreK program?

- A lot of this has been put in place already with EHS.
- A wonderful idea that all children will have access to quality education.
- Could be willing to convert toddler classrooms, but would be a loss to toddler places in Durham.
- Currently have 2 classrooms that could be used for pre-k
- different way to measure facility-other than education
- Excited and willing to do everything for children and families to benefit.
- Familiar with state funding prek. Very knowledgeable
- Getting teachers to a level, need teacher commitment-required TEACH participation
- Having funding to help the child care programs help the community would be great. We need funding for resources.
- Hoping Durham prek doesn't exclude alternative options for children.
- How soon could this become applicable?
- How would we market? No referrals from CCSA since last November. TA came in and still no referrals (DSS referrals either.)
- I am an advocate for low-income families and committed to quality and excited about Durham Prek and creating opportunities for more kids.
- I would do the best, high quality center as possible.

- I would like to see parents more accountable for children. See some involvement from parents.
- I'm interested in knowing if they would have funds available to renovate the playground for special needs kids.
- If the county will consider working outside of the box, this is the only way we could participate. We want to partner with the county to meet the quality standards, but will not go through rated license.
- It would be a good idea for parents who want their children to succeed and they don't have resources.
- Language immersion is important to understand when considering Montessori school.
- More information is needed to make an informed decision.
- More information is needed.
- Not a licensed program concerned about how things would work. Want to be considered and want to know about requirements. We are a Christian program and want to keep that option.
- Primary Colors is purchasing Triangle Day Care Center this spring and renovations are scheduled to begin in June the renovation project will include the creation of two new classrooms. The new space will be available for new students August 2018. The new classrooms can also be designated for Durham Prek students if needed.
- set-up to run prek program
- So happy you can convert slots. The children need it and it works. Prek, HS and EHS all work. They need it.
- TAPC is ready to help Durham any way they can. We love diversity and helping kids.
- The big concern is a lack of facility space in Durham County. Limited facilities in Durham.
- The school is a very warm and inviting environment. We allow exploring through learning. Various learning practices including challenging and scaffolding learning styles. Pride in being a caring and loving environment and family centered.
- We are an awesome staff and school and education is important. We have parent participation.
- This school is interested in providing quality instruction opportunities to children of Durham in a small way.
- Want to make sure I have my ducks in a row and understand what I need, my teachers need and children. Want to know up front.
- We always have 4 yr openings and I would love to fill them and participate.
- We are and have been NC Pre-k site, so converting the space is our biggest challenge.
- We are excited about the possibility and look forward to working with Durham Pre-k
- We are located in an older building, not sure what we can do with renovation of space.
- We are ready and have dreamed about this. I am an educator and all for children (needed in the Delta area). Hope we'll be chosen.
- We are ready to move forward
- We could be ready to go for 3 classrooms of 18
- We have the space available in addition to our NC pre-k program and do want to fill it.
- We offer excellent care. We follow all the rules and guidelines, hire friendly and courteous staff who love the children. We exceed sanitation standards and offer the best quality care in the state of NC. We are serious about the care we offer. We give all the attention, love and care to the children so they will grow up to be positive young people in society.
- We would love to blend them into our programs.

- What do I do with slots in summer when pre-k children are not in school?
- Willing to add a facility/space to the property
- Would love to partner with the county to meet needs and have a variety of prek programs. Quality over quantity. Small programs best for kids, allows for providers to have influence and long lasting change with families. These families need more.