

***SULPHUR SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
HEAD START***

**2023-2024
PARENT HANDBOOK**



Douglass Early Childhood Learning Center
600 Calvert Street
Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482
Telephone: (903) 885-4516 Fax: (903) 439.1181





Recipe for a Delightful & Developmentally Appropriate Classroom

Developmentally Appropriate Ingredients:

- ✓ **STAFF** - Qualified teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, families and community members.
- ✓ **TEACHING STRATEGIES**- Inclusive grouping, cooperative learning, flexible scheduling, age and ability appropriate activities.
- ✓ **FROG STREET CURRICULUM** - Literature and language rich, thematic units, integrated, hands-on experiences.
- ✓ **EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT** - Student work, anecdotal records, formal and informal assessments, family involvement.
- ✓ **MIX** above in **DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE TIME FRAMES**
- ✓ **STIR** in **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT** - Flexible scheduling, tolerance of noise, understanding evaluations, resources for families.

AND SERVE WITH ABUNDANT PLAY!



**Sulphur Springs ISD
2023-2024 School Calendar**

**First Day of School - August 22, 2023
Last Day of School - May 23, 2024
High School Graduation - May 24, 2024**

School Start Time

Pre K - 12
7:50 (8:00 tardy bell) - 3:30

Beginning & End of Year Staff Prep Days

New Teacher Orientation August 8-9
August 10 -11
August 14-18
August 21
May 24

Staff Prep / Student Holidays

January 8-9
March 18
May 24

Holidays - Students & Staff

September 4 - Labor Day
October 27 - Fall Festival
November 20-24 Thanksgiving
December 25-Jan 5 Christmas
January 15 - Martin Luther King Day
February 23 - NETLA (Bad Weather Make-up)
March 11-15 Spring Break
March 29 - Good Friday
April 1 -Easter Holiday
April 8 - Eclipse Day
May 17th
May 27 - Memorial Day

Early Release Days

December 22 - 1:30
May 23 - 1:30

Bad Weather Make-Up Days (if needed)

February 23rd
May 17th

1st Nine Weeks August 22 - October 13 (38)
2nd Nine Weeks October 16 - December 22 (44)
3rd Nine Weeks January 10 - March 8 (41)
4th Nine Weeks March 19 - May 23 (44)

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SP - Staff Prep/Student Holiday
ER - Early Release
H - Holiday
SH - Summer Hours
W - Weather Make-up Day



Staff Development / Work Days
8:00 - 3:30 (1 hour lunch)
8:00 - 4:00 (1 1/2 hour lunch)

Visitor Access: An additional safety measure during the COVID-19 pandemic, Sulphur Springs ISD is limiting visitor access into buildings. When you drop off your child in the mornings, a staff member will lead your child into the building.

Visitor Management System/Procedural Guide



Sulphur Springs Independent School District began the implementation of the V-Soft Raptor Visitor Management System (commonly called Raptor) in the 2008-2009 school year. Raptor enables schools to produce visitor badges, monitor volunteer hours, and electronically check all visitors against registered sexual offender databases. The overall goal of this system is to increase the safety of each school. After the visitor's identification card has been scanned into the system and a negative result (from sex offender databases) is received, a visitor badge will be printed for the visitor to wear during the visit.

For the safety of those within the school and to avoid disruption of instructional time, all visitors:

- must first report to the main office
- should be prepared to show identification, which will be scanned and submitted to the V-Soft Raptor Visitor Management System
- must wear the visitor badge printed for the visitor
- must comply with all applicable district policies and procedures
- must demonstrate high standards of courtesy and conduct

When leaving the building, the visitor must return the visitor badge to the main office.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

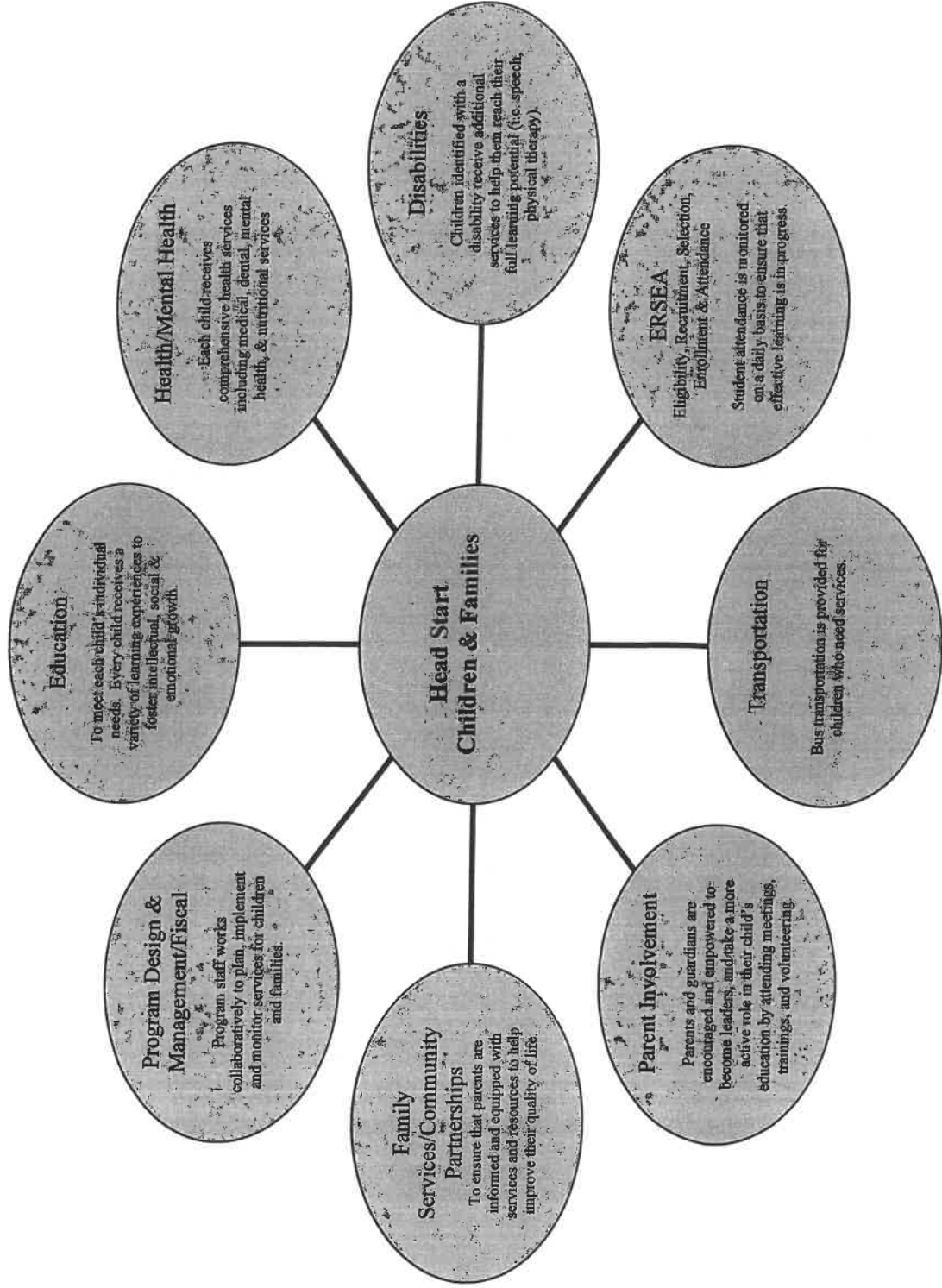
To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

SSISD Head Start Components

“A comprehensive approach to aiding children and families in obtaining a ‘head start’ in their educational success”



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND ELIGIBILITY

The Sulphur Springs Independent School District Early Childhood Education Program is composed of three programs:

Head Start is a federally funded program which provides comprehensive medical, dental, social, nutritional and educational benefits for low-income or disabled children. Children must be three or four years old on or before September 1. A limited number of openings are available each year. Additional four-year-old children who qualify for Head Start after the openings are filled will be served in Pre-K, if they meet Pre-K eligibility. A waiting list will be maintained for Head Start. Qualification by income will be verified using guidelines determined by the Administration for Children and Families.

Pre-Kindergarten is a state funded program which provides educational benefits for low-income or limited English speaking children who are four years old on or before September 1. Qualification by income will be verified using USDA Free and Reduced Lunch Guidelines.

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) is a program for children ages three to five who have been professionally diagnosed as having a disabling condition. Eligibility will be determined by an Admission, Review, and Dismissal Committee after formal evaluation by an educational diagnostician or assessment team.

ENROLLMENT

Parents or legal guardians must complete a Head Start or Pre-Kindergarten application packet and provide the following information to be considered for participation in either of these programs:

1. Birth Certificate
2. Immunization Record
3. Verification of Family Income – Income verification is needed for all adults living in the child's home. Acceptable proof of income includes check stubs, W2's, income tax returns, social security printouts, TANF letters, Medicaid letters, Social Security, unemployment checks, military LES, or other forms listed in the federal guidelines definition of income.
4. Social Security Number – if available.
5. For those children with a disability who are applying for Head Start, documentation of the child's disability must be submitted.
6. Doctor's notes addressing allergies, food allergies, asthma, or any medical needs.

Before a child can participate in the Head Start program, the parent must complete, sign and return, or provide the following information:

- Enrollment Packet
- Signed copy of the Parent Handbook
- Current Immunization Records
- Physicals

ATTENDANCE

Parents should make every effort to have each child in school every day. Test scores and other progress records show a significant difference in children who attend regularly and those who are frequently absent. By enrolling a child in the program, parents become responsible for his/her regular attendance as required by law in the Texas Education Code. Excused absences include illness of the child or death in the immediate family. The child's name, the teacher's name, and the reason for the absence should be given. **Eighteen or more unexcused absences may result in a child being removed or dismissed from the program.** If your child has a doctor's appointment and returns to school the same day with a note from the doctor, then he or she is not counted absent. **Attendance is strongly emphasized to ensure that students are able to grow and learn. Please note that there are students on a waiting list that would like the opportunity to be enrolled in the program. Make sure your child is a Douglass ECLC H.E.R.O. Here, Everyday, Ready and On Time!**

RELEASING CHILDREN

Students will not be released to individuals whose names are not listed on the Parent Consent forms. Parents must notify the school if someone else is to pick up their child and add that individual's name to the Parent Consent form. Releasing children to individuals not listed on the Parent Consent Form should be as limited as possible. Legal guardians are allowed to pick up their child **unless** legal documentation has been attained denying parental rights.

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION/ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Parents of three and four year old Head Start students may choose to bring their child to the center, or to have him/her ride the bus (if there is space available) from the stop nearest his/her home. If no space is available on the bus, parents may request their child's name to be added to a waiting list for the next available spot on the appropriate bus. A child may be brought to the center no earlier than 7:30 a.m. Parents are strongly encouraged to allow their children to stay in school for the entire school day. If there is an emergency which prevents parents from picking the child up on time, please notify the school immediately or before 1:30 p.m. so alternate plans may be made. If the child is brought to school, please have him/her arrive no later than 7:45 a.m. unless he/she has a doctor or dental appointment. All children will eat breakfast in the cafeteria upon arrival at the center. For the child's safety, please be sure he/she wears the bus tag back to school each morning. If your child's bus tag is missing, please inform his/her teacher, so that the bus tag will be replaced immediately. This will help the school personnel assure that each child gets on the appropriate bus. Notes will be sent in take-home folder or binder. Please check with your child's teacher for bus information and pick-up information. Bus Safety material and resources will be shared throughout the school year.

FIELD TRIPS/ACTIVITIES

Parent/Guardian will be given 48 hour written notification prior to field trips, water activities, presentations with animals, etc. Children will be supervised at all times. Parents are invited to volunteer during field trips and other extracurricular activities. All volunteers will be subject to a criminal background check. Parents must sign out children with teacher before student is allowed to go home or leave for home after field trip.

ILLNESSES AND EXCLUSIONS

Students suffering from a communicable condition, as defined by the Department of State Health Services, shall be excluded from attendance until one of the criteria for readmittance is fulfilled.

One or more of the following methods, as determined by the local health authority, shall readmit students excluded for reason of communicable disease:

1. Certificate of the attending physician attesting to their recovery and noninfectious status.
2. Permit for readmission issued by the local health authority.
3. After a period of time corresponding to the duration of the communicability of the disease, as established by the commissioner of health.
4. Student must be fever and symptom free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.

EXTRA CLOTHING

Our staff realizes that accidents happen, so we ask that parents please send a full change of clothes for your child. Your child's name should be written inside each article of clothing with a permanent marker. If for some unforeseen reason you are unable to provide an extra set of clothing, please communicate with your child's teacher.

PROTOCOL FOR THE DISPERSAL OF MEDICINE

- ❖ All medication dispersed should be in its original container.
- ❖ Over the counter medication must be labeled with child's name, birthday, dosage, and time to administer.
- ❖ A Medication Authorization Form must be completed by the parent before medication can be administered. The medicine will be locked up in a cabinet or in a locked box in refrigerator in the Health Clinic.
- ❖ Without a note from the parent, guardian, or physician, medicine will not be dispensed.
- ❖ All dispersal of medication will be documented on the Medication Administration Sheet in the Health Clinic.
- ❖ No medication can be sent to school or home in a student's backpack.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION/MEDICAL EMERGENCY PLAN

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY OR DISASTER, THE TEACHER AND/OR TEACHER ASSISTANT WILL EVACUATE ANY DISABLED CHILD.

- The Teacher Assistant will reassure the child and provide first aid, should illness or injury occur.
- The Teacher will get another staff person to supervise the group.
- School nurse will be contacted immediately, in case of an emergency.
- The Teacher will notify the parent(s) or guardian.
- The Teacher will notify the Director/Principal and of any injuries or illnesses.
- The Teacher Assistant or another staff member will accompany the child to the hospital, if necessary.
- Parents are required to complete an **Emergency Contact Form**, which includes a home, cell, work (if applicable) or a close relative/friend's telephone number. Documentation is required in order for teaching staff to contact parents/guardians when necessary. Completed forms are kept in the "Emergency/Go Kits" in the classrooms, taken on field trips, and buses.
- Parents are also required to complete a **Emergency & Health Form Information**, which includes parental permission to seek medical attention for students, in case of an emergency.

SPECIAL SERVICES

HEALTH SERVICES

At the beginning of the school year, the nurse and health extender will provide screenings for dental, hearing and vision and height and weight for each child. If a major health problem, illness, or injury occurs at home, the school or nurse should be informed. They are available to assist you in arranging for the necessary medical treatment. When illness or injury occurs at school, the child's teacher will take him/her to the nurse for evaluation. If the child must take medication at school, the medicine should be brought to the nurse's office in the original prescription container. It may not be sent to school or home in the student's backpack. A permission form must be signed before the health clinic staff can administer medicine as prescribed. The medicine should not be sent to school on the bus.

DISABILITY SERVICES/SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Children with special learning needs may be served through the Special Education Department. Inclusion time may be provided in Head Start for part of each day. Each child is given a speech screening. The speech therapist assists the classroom teacher in identifying children with speech and language impairments, developing specific classroom speech interventions and referring students for speech language services as needed. Many children are served in their own classroom in a group setting. Children who are receiving therapy from an outside source do not automatically receive that therapy at school. Specific federal and state qualification/guidelines for public school must be followed.

FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS

The Family Partnerships personnel assist families in their own efforts to improve the condition and quality of life. Help is available in obtaining clothing, food, housing, counseling, job training, or assistance from community agencies and resources. Families in need of help may contact the family support staff for assistance.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental health services are provided as needed. Licensed Professional Counselors provide parent trainings and consult with teachers and parents individually upon request or through referral, on an as needed basis.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Head Start's educational program is designed to meet the needs of each child, the community served, and its ethnic and cultural characteristics. Every child receives a variety of learning experiences to foster intellectual, social, and emotional growth.

VISITATION/VOLUNTEER SERVICES

(Depending on Federal, State and Local Guidelines)

Parents are encouraged to volunteer any time after the first three weeks of school. The Family Services Specialists and Parent Involvement Specialist will review all Parent Interest Surveys, and with the help of the teachers, place parents in the position suited to their interest. One free lunch is provided per week for parent volunteers. **Current TB testing required annually** if volunteers are present at the center more than 8 hours per week. Parents who volunteer must have a criminal background check completed before volunteer efforts begins. Awards and prizes are given throughout the year for volunteers. Volunteer Training is available at your convenience if you are unable to attend at the beginning of the year.

PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Parent Center – Located at the Douglass Early Childhood Learning Center. The Parent Center consists of a complete kitchen, computers, parent resources, and plenty of room to relax and/or read. It is equipped for parent learning and enjoyment. Parents interested in computers are welcome to use the equipment at Douglass ECLC.

You are always welcome in the Parent Center. Please take advantage of all the fun and educational opportunities we have to offer while your child is a part of Head Start. If you have questions/ideas or need additional information, please contact the Parent Involvement Specialist at 903.885.4516.

Computer Training – Basic computer training is available in the Parent Center, as needed.

GED/ Family Literacy Initiatives – Information is available for those interested in getting their GED certificate. Head Start will assist families with financial arrangements for the test as long as you have a child enrolled in the Head Start program. Literacy, GED and English as Second Language classes are offered at the Sulphur Springs Technical Center. Anyone interested in improving his or her literacy skills or obtaining a GED is welcome to join. GED study guides are available in the Parent Center or from a Family Services Specialist.

P.A.C.T. (Parent & Child Together) – Activities will be sent home once a semester containing engaging and educational material for the family. Parents are encouraged to spend quality time with their child in order to ensure that they are ready for school.

Parent Classes – Classes are offered in health, nutrition, positive discipline, and home & money management. Classes are offered at various times of the day.

Parent Committee – Meetings are scheduled throughout the year and are held in the Parent Center at ECLC. Every parent or guardian whose child is enrolled in Head Start is automatically on the Parent Committee. Officers are elected at the beginning of the year and are not limited to parents. Other family members, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc., are welcome at these meetings.

Policy Council - Council representatives are elected to serve on the Policy Council which represents the program as a whole. The Policy Council makes decisions about very important issues facing the program. The Policy Council reports to the Parent Committee on current program activities and business. There is a minimum of 5 regularly scheduled Policy Council meetings each year.

Parent Communication – The SSISD Head Start program communicates or shares information with parents via phone contacts, flyers, email, Remind101, Facebook, newsletters, conferences, district website, calendars, etc.








Head Start Symbol



The Head Start Symbol tells a story. The two squares represent early childhood by suggesting building blocks. The vertical stripes represent the child and the parent. The arrow pointing upward represents the direction upward toward family success. The arrangement of the blocks represents stairs by which this can be accomplished. The colors red, white, and blue represent the United States and the many opportunities it provides for its citizens.

SSISD Head Start Parent Involvement Pledge

As a Parent, I pledge to:

-  Show my child that I value education;
-  Encourage my child to be a good reader;
-  Talk to my child about his/her schoolwork;
-  Visit the school;
-  Meet the teachers;
-  Learn what the school is doing for my child and
-  Learn how I can take part.



I pledge to get involved and stay involved, for a quality education is the key to success, and one of the greatest gifts I can give to my child.

APPROPRIATE DRESS

Tennis shoes are the best type of shoes for children to wear. Boots, flip flop thongs, and sandals are not advised. Please label all sweaters, caps, gloves, coats, blankets, etc. with the child's first and last name. Please send extra clothing in case your child has a toileting or other accident.

GROOMING/PERSONAL HYGIENE

The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided they comply with the district's policies. (See SSISD Elementary Student Handbook).

MEALS

Breakfast, lunch and snack will be served to all Head Start children on a daily basis, free of charge. Therefore, no outside food may be brought in for these meals. **This institution is an equal opportunity provider.**

PARTIES

Douglass ECLC has 3 class parties a year, which are held at Christmas, Valentine's, and Easter. Parents may bring store bought refreshments to the parties, if it is scheduled with the child's teacher. Other holidays are part of the regular curriculum, with all activities geared toward learning.



BIRTHDAYS

Children's birthdays may be celebrated in the individual classrooms with special activities such as wearing a birthday crown/hat, singing "Happy Birthday", allowing the birthday boy or girl to be the class leader, etc. In addition, parents may provide **store bought** healthy snacks like wrapped muffins, juice boxes, etc., for their child's birthday during the school year, if snack items are provided for all children in the classroom. **Parents must coordinate with their child's teacher before bringing items to the school.** If students are having parties "outside" the school and parents wish to distribute invitations, in fairness, all students in their classroom must receive an invitation.

HOME VISITS AND CONFERENCES

Teachers will set up appointments with parents for two home visits and two parent conferences throughout the school year. Visits are to share information which will help the child and family receive maximum benefits from his/her educational program.

Parent, Family and Community Engagement Specialist (PFCES) will set appointments with parents at the beginning of the school year to make a family or individual goals based on each family's need. PFCES will follow up periodically throughout the year to aid parents, as needed, in achieving their goal(s).

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to make every effort to be present for the appointment. The home and school must work as a team for the year to be a successful one

DISCIPLINE PLAN

Learning to work cooperatively with others is an important lesson for three and four year olds to learn. Good socialization skills are essential to later success in elementary school. It is important for the school and home to work together to help children who are having difficulties. Discipline at school is designed to teach children personal responsibility for their actions. Children are not spanked or ridiculed at school.

In order to provide your child and the rest of the children in our school with the positive learning and social atmosphere they deserve, we will utilize the following discipline plan to manage our classroom and other school related activities.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

If a child misbehaves in the classroom, outside or on the school bus, the following procedures will be implemented to correct the misbehavior:

individualized and consistent redirections for each child; appropriate to the child's level of understanding; and directed toward teaching the child acceptable behavior and self-control.

A teacher or caregiver may only use positive methods of discipline and guidance that encourage self-esteem, self-control, and self-direction, which include at least the following:

Using praise and encouragement of good behavior instead of focusing only upon unacceptable behavior; Reminding a child of behavior expectations daily by using clear, positive statements; Redirecting behavior using positive statements; and Using brief supervised separation or think time from the group, when appropriate for the child's age and development, which is limited to no more than one minute per year of child's age.

There must be no harsh, cruel, or unusual treatment of any child. The following types of discipline and guidance are prohibited:

Corporal punishment or threats of corporal punishment; Punishment associated with food, naps, or toilet training; Pinching, shaking, or biting a child; Hitting a child with a hand or instrument; Putting anything in or on a child's mouth; Humiliating, ridiculing, rejecting, or yelling at a child; Subjecting a child to harsh, abusive, or profane language; Placing a child in a locked or dark room, bathroom, or closet with the door closed; and Requiring a child to remain silent or inactive for inappropriately long periods of time for the child's age.

1302.17 Suspension and Expulsion

Limitations on Suspensions. (a) The SSISD Head Start program prohibits and/or severely limits the use of suspension due to a child's behavior. A temporary suspension will be used as a last resort, in extreme circumstances when there is a serious safety threat that cannot be reduced or eliminated by the provision of reasonable modifications. Content Area Specialists will make needed referrals and will collaborate with parents, teachers, school counselors, and LPCs in order to improve student behaviors. PFCE Specialists will also make home visits, as needed, and encourage parents to attend mental health meetings.

Prohibition on Expulsion. (b) The SSISD Head Start program will not expel or un-enroll a child from Head Start because of a child's behavior. Teachers will make referrals for students that exhibit persistent and challenging behaviors and share information with Mental Health Specialists. Parents are always notified before a referral is made. If the child has an individualized family service plan (IFSP) or individualized education program (IEP), the program will consult with the special education department. The program will utilize all resources in order to address the immediate needs of students and families.

Method for Filing Grievance

A grievance may be filed in the following ways:

(Oral/Informal) The initial grievance may be informal and submitted orally to allow for discussion between the complainant and the appropriate Head Start representative (i.e. teacher or specialist, etc.)

Written (Formal) - A statement concerning the complaint should be filed with the appropriate representative and a copy forwarded to the Head Start Policy Council.

A grievance may be filed with the following representatives:

If the complaint arises at the Douglass Early Childhood Learning Center, a grievance may be filed with the following:

Head Start Director/Principal — If aggrieved party is a child, parent, school employee, Head Start director or concerned citizen; or if the complaint originated from practices at the Early Childhood Learning Center, a grievance may be filed with the principal.

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education — If aggrieved party is principal, supervisor, or an employee of Head Start, a grievance may be filed with the Director of Elementary Education.

Superintendent — If aggrieved party is principal, supervisor, or an employee of Head Start, a grievance may be filed with the superintendent.

If the complaint concerns matters of School Board or Head Start Policy, a grievance may be filed with the following:

Policy Council — If aggrieved party is a child, parent, school employee, concerned citizen, Head Start staff or School Board member, a grievance may be filed with the Policy Council.

Sulphur Springs ISD Board of Education President — If a complaint concerns matters of formal school board policy only, a grievance may be filed with the president of the Sulphur Springs ISD Board of Education.

Assurances of Fair and Timely Hearings (*Informal Hearing*)

- Reasonable oral discussion between appropriate parties is assured.
- A written record of disposition is assured within ten school days (maximum); the disposition will be signed by the aggrieved party and Head Start or school representative.

VOLUNTEER HANDBOOK

Volunteers help where they are needed. They serve to reinforce and enrich the educational team, by committing a specific amount of time each week for service in the classroom, Parent Center, Library, or Office. Volunteers receive guidance from teachers, program managers/specialists or administrators while supporting their efforts in helping children and families succeed.

WAYS A VOLUNTEER CAN HELP

- Operate office equipment
- Put up bulletin boards and other displays
- Assist with special events, programs or assemblies
- Utilize special skills or talents for class
- Assemble transition packets for families



GUIDELINES FOR VOLUNTEERS

A volunteer will:

- Exhibit a genuine interest in helping children/families.
- Work under the supervision and direction of teacher/teacher assistant and staff. Teamwork is very important to the teachers who are primarily responsible for the classroom.
- Check with the teacher for any specific assignment and be responsible for understanding the assignment completely. Please feel free to ask questions so assignments are completed successfully.
- Appear neat, clean and dressed conservatively.
- Use appropriate speech and behavior.
- Maintain confidentiality relating to information and activities of children and others in the school.
- Be in the classroom or office at the agreed time and take responsibility when absent to notify teachers or the office staff as soon as possible for a replacement. All volunteers are important and someone is counting on you.
- Participate in orientation and training sessions.
- Complete necessary sign-in and sign-out procedures, including wearing of a special identification badge.
- Use the appropriate channels of communication. If a volunteer is not happy in his/her assignment or needs a schedule change, the teacher or Parent Involvement Specialist should be notified.
- Help to discourage excessive loud voices especially during "Learning Center" time and lunchtime.
- Encourage children to put away toys in the proper places when not in use. Every toy has a "home."
- During lunch, encourage children to taste everything, yet, never force them to eat anything. Children are discouraged from sharing food. Children should not be allowed to eat off of staff, volunteers or others' plates, nor should a volunteer eat from a child's plate.



VOLUNTEER STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The Sulphur Springs Independent School District is committed to setting and maintaining certain standards so that all school children (and their families) will be protected while attending school. **Current TB testing or screening form required annually** if volunteers are present at the center more than 8 hours per week. The following are safeguards set forth to protect your child:

Volunteers will...

- ◆ Check in with the office before entering the classroom ensuring that only authorized persons will be allowed on school grounds.
- ◆ Avoid promoting any commercial product or brand names, nor make contact with, sell or deliver any products.
- ◆ Refrain from promoting any religious doctrines or beliefs on the school campus.

BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers receive the rewards of helping others and knowing that they are needed.

Volunteers may expect to:

- Enlarge their circle of friends and acquaintances of all ages.
- Become more understanding of the growth and development of young children.
- Learn new skills and ways to teach creatively.
- Work as a partner with school personnel, encouraging children to actively participate and learn.
- See positive results from their efforts in helping children, families and teachers experience success.



WAYS TO IMPROVE VOLUNTEER SERVICE

The volunteer helps mold, shape and cultivate attitudes that encourage “active” learning participation.

The best volunteer:

- ↓ Has respect for the individual child and his/her own unique personality.
- ↓ Responds positively to children’s feelings.
- ↓ Actively listens to children with patience.
- ↓ Is mentally alert and poised in handling situations with kindness, fairness and consistency.
- ↓ Sincerely praises each child’s growth and progress.



RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Volunteers are thanked verbally as an ongoing courtesy. Volunteers who have regularly given time and service will be given certificates of appreciation at the end of the school year. In addition, volunteers with the most volunteer hours for the school term, will have their name placed on a school plaque, and also receive a gift. Other volunteer appreciation activities are coordinated by Parent, Family & Community Engagement Specialist at various times throughout the school year.



**Sulphur Springs Independent School District
Head Start**

Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Plan



- Head Start will offer child abuse and neglect training on an annual basis.
- Training will be provided by Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) staff or an appropriate community organization that has expertise in handling child abuse and neglect situations.

Legal Responsibilities for Reporting

Anyone who suspects that a child has been or may be abused or neglected has a legal responsibility, under state law, for reporting the suspected abuse or neglect to law enforcement or to Child Protective Services (CPS).

Any district employee, agent, or contractor has an additional legal obligation to submit an oral or written report within 48 hours of learning of the facts giving rise to suspicion of abuse or neglect.

Reporting Liability

A person who in good faith reports or assists in the investigation of a report of child abuse or neglect is immune from civil or criminal liability.

Failure to report suspected abuse

By failing to report suspicion of child abuse and neglect:

- You may be placing a child at risk of continued abuse or neglect;
- You are violating the law and may be subject to legal penalties including criminal sanctions;
- Staff that fail to report child abuse and neglect, are violating Board policy and may be subject to disciplinary action, including possible termination of employment; and may also be in danger of having their State Board of Educator Certification suspended, revoked, or canceled.

Staff responsibilities regarding investigations of abuse or neglect

State law specifically prohibits school officials from:

- Denying an investigator's request to interview a child at school in connection with an investigation of child abuse or neglect; or
- Requiring that a parent or school employee be present during the interview.

School personnel must cooperate fully and may not interfere with an investigation of reported child abuse or neglect.

~Sulphur Springs ISD Board Policy - FFG(Exhibit)-A

What Can One Person Do to Prevent Child Abuse?

Change Yourself

- Ask yourself how you are doing as a parent. Vow to learn one new thing about being a parent by reading or talking to other parents.
- Respect family members. Use a courteous tone of voice with them.
- Learn to apologize to your children when you are wrong. Make time to play together. Praise children and teens for being good, and for doing the little things that are so easy to take for granted.
- Tell your children "I love you" more often.
- Violence teaches violence. Forget about hitting your kids.

Change Your Community

- Reach out to neighbors or relatives with children. Offer to baby-sit to give them a much needed break.
- Don't wait for someone else to do it...take action! Arrange for a speaker on child abuse to come to PTA or adult Sunday school class.
- Volunteer your time in a child crisis shelter, parenting support program, drug prevention/treatment program, or shelter for the homeless.

Change the World

- Write a letter to your elected representatives and let them know it is your choice that they act to support parent education and child abuse prevention.
- Register to vote and use your vote to reflect your concern for children.
- Child abuse prevention organizations are only as strong as their members. Join the Prevent Child Abuse Texas...for it shouldn't hurt to be a child.

*~Prevent Child Abuse Texas *** www.PreventChildAbuseTexas.org*

FACT SHEET

Child Abuse

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Anyone "having cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been or may be adversely affected by abuse or neglect" **must** report the case to any state or local law enforcement agency and to the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services. Failure to report suspected child abuse or neglect is punishable by imprisonment of up to 180 days and/or a fine of up to \$1000.

REPORTING

An oral report must be made immediately (within 48 hours) to nearest Child Protective Service Office, to the 24-hour Child Abuse Hotline (1-800-252-5400), or to the local law enforcement officials. As a follow-up, a written report must be made into the Department of Protective & Regulatory Services within five days.

Anyone who files a report is immune from civil or criminal liability--if the report is made in "good faith" and "without malice". *Good faith means the person took reasonable steps to learn the facts that were readily available and at hand. Without Malice means the person did not intend to injure or violate the rights of another person.*

CHILDREN MOST LIKELY TO BE ABUSED

- ~handicapped
- ~unwanted children
- ~small preemies
- ~child with "will of own" - inquisitive, demanding

NEGLECT

- ~Obvious malnutrition
- ~Habitually dressed in torn and/or dirty clothes
- ~Unattended for long periods of time
- ~Begs for or steals food
- ~3- 4 standard deviation below normal height/weight
- ~Lack of personal cleanliness
- ~Obvious fatigue & listlessness
- ~Needs glasses, dental care, medical attention
- ~Frequently absent or late to school
- ~Body and hair dirty, offensive body odor

PHYSICAL ABUSE

- ~Frequent injuries such as bruises, cuts, black eyes, or burns, especially when the child cannot adequately explain the cause
- ~Burns or bruises in an unusual pattern which may indicate the use of an instrument or a human bite-cigarette burns on the face arms or palms
- ~Wears unseasonable clothes
- ~Reluctance to sit down; cannot hold a pencil
- ~Frequent complaints of pain without obvious injury
- ~Lack of reaction to pain
- ~Fear of going home or seeing parent
- ~Evidence of poor self concept
- ~Chronic runaway
- ~Complaints of beatings or other harsh treatment
- ~Injuries that appear after child isn't seen for several days
- ~Frequent absence or tardiness without reasonable explanation

SEXUAL ABUSE

- ~Physical signs of sexually transmitted disease
- ~Pregnancy in young girl
- ~Knowledgeable about sexual relations
- ~Reports sexual assault
- ~Complaints of pain itching in genital area or evidence of trauma in genital area
- ~Suicide attempts
- ~Evidence of injury to the genital area
- ~Difficulty in sitting or walking
- ~Extreme fear of being alone with member of the opposite sex
- ~Engages in sexually suggestible or promiscuous behavior
- ~Drawing/writings may have strong, often bizarre sexual theme
- ~Unusual odors around genital area
- ~Poor peer relationships

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

- ~Speech disorders
- ~Developmental lags
- ~Overly adaptive behavior
- ~Conduct/habit disorders
- ~Delinquent behavior
- ~Substance behavior



Prevent Child Abuse Texas

13740 Research Blvd, #R-4, TX 78750

512/250-8438 512/250-8733 (fax)

www.PreventChildAbuseTexas.org

Fact Sheet developed the American Humane Association

FACT SHEET

NATIONAL STATISTICS

- The United States spends \$258 million each day as a direct (costs associated with the immediate needs of abused and neglected children) and indirect (costs associated with long-term/secondary effects of abuse and neglect) result of the abuse and neglect of our nation's children. The annual costs are equivalent to \$1,461.66 per U.S. family.
- According to a report published in 2001 by Prevent Child Abuse America, the total estimated cost of direct abuse and neglect is over \$24 billion annually. The indirect cost is estimated at over \$94 billion annually.
- Of the 826,000 confirmed cases, 58.4% suffered neglect, 21.3% suffered physical abuse and 11.3% were sexually abused.
- In 2000, 1.87 out of every 100,000 children died from abuse or neglect. This rate yields a national estimate of 1,356 child deaths from abuse and neglect.
- Children younger than a year old accounted for 42.6% of the fatalities, and 86.1% were younger than 6 years of age. Male and female children accounted for almost equal percentages of victims in each age group.
- Children who had been victimized prior to 1999 were almost 3 times more likely to experience recurrence during the 6 months following their first victimization in 1999 than children without a prior history of victimization.
- Parents continue to be the main perpetrators of child maltreatment. Approximately 87% of all victims were maltreated by at least one parent. The most common pattern of maltreatment (45%) was a child victimized by a female parent acting alone.

Each Day in the United States ...

- 4 children die from child abuse
- 27 children die from poverty
- 689 babies are born with inadequate prenatal care
- 13,700 children are abused and neglected

Every ...

- 11 seconds a child is reported abused or neglected
- 5 minutes a child is arrested for a violent crime
- 17 minutes a baby dies
- 2 hours a child is a homicide victim

TEXAS STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

- The number of children who died from abuse or neglect totaled 184
- Child Protective Services received 186,160 reports of child abuse and neglect. There were 131,130 investigations of child abuse & neglect by CPS and 50,208 were confirmed victims.
- Abused & neglected children are 53% more likely to be arrested as a juvenile & 38% more likely to be arrested as an adult.

CONFIRMED VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE AND/OR NEGLECT BY TYPE OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT:

Physical abuse: 13,606
Sexual abuse: 7,473
Emotional abuse: 1,067
Abandonment: 420

Medical neglect: 2,371
Physical neglect: 7,198
Neglectful Supervision: 26,338
Refusal to accept parental responsibility: 845

- **Physical:**
60-70% of abused children suffer bruises and welts; 15-20% incur skeletal injury
25-30% of cases involve brain or neuromotor dysfunction
- **Social:**
60% of prostitutes were sexually abused as children
65% of prison inmates at the Ferguson Unit (TDC) were abused as children
90% of convicted murderers were physically abused as children
- **Emotional & Psychological:**
50% abused children have school related problems
22% suffer learning disorders requiring special education
60-80% of adult drug or alcohol abusers have a history of child abuse



13740 Research Blvd. #R-4 Austin, TX 78750
512/250-8438 512/250-8733 (fax)
pcatx@preventchildabusetexas.org (e-mail)
www.preventchildabusetexas.org

Reporting Child Abuse

Apart from the anger, dread, and anxiety the reporter of abuse/neglect experiences, there is usually a lot of confusion about what to do or where to report the suspected abuse/neglect. There are a number of steps one can take that may make this unsavory experience a little less daunting.

TAKING THE FIRST STEP

Deciding whether or not to report suspected child abuse can be a difficult and confusing process, yet it is the important first step toward protecting a child who might be in danger. Professionals who work with children are required by law to report suspected neglect and abuse.

CALL 1-800-252-5400 TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE/NEGLECT.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I MAKE THE DECISION TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE?

Several events take place after the initial complaint is filed. First of all, depending on where you live, you might report suspected abuse and/or neglect to your local child protective agency. The person responding to the call may ask you several questions about what you are reporting. This is done to ensure that enough information is available for the investigative team to be able to make decisions concerning whether or not abuse/neglect has occurred. You might be asked to give names of the family and child, your reasons for suspecting abuse, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of other witnesses, your relationship to the alleged victim, any other previous suspicious injury to the child, or for your name address and telephone number.

WHO INVESTIGATES COMPLAINTS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

The state or county agency that provides protective services has the legal authority granted by law or charter which gives them an obligation to provide services when needed. This also grants them the right to explore, study and evaluate the facts. Child welfare workers then base their decision on whether or not to remove a child from the family on two issues: 1. What is the immediate danger or risk to the child? 2. What is the motivation, capacity and intent of the alleged perpetrator?

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CHILD AND FAMILY?

With the enactment of Public Law 96-272, it is legally mandated that child welfare workers make all "reasonable efforts" to reunite the family whenever possible. If, after a thorough investigation, it is determined that the child is in need of substitute care, then the child is placed in temporary foster care until the immediate danger has passed and services can be provided for the child and family. Sometimes criminal child abuse charges have to be filed depending on the nature and severity of the abuse/neglect.

WILL I BE ABLE TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CHILD?

Persons who have reported suspected child maltreatment should be allowed to know whether or not their suspicions were founded and what steps the investigation agency took to protect the child. However, there is a great deal of confusion over whether or not information from the child welfare cases should be shared. Legally, there is no impediment to providing general feedback to the child abuse/neglect reporter. The most difficult confidentially issue is to resolve concerns of the reporting individual's right to know versus the family's right to privacy. The child welfare agency may give feedback that indicates that the reporter was right in making a referral and the agency will be working with the family.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I REPORT AND THE CASE IS UNSUBSTANTIATED?

All states have laws that protect the reporter of suspected abuse or neglect from legal liability as long as the report was made in "good faith" and not maliciously. If you are unsure of what the legal and societal definitions of abuse and neglect are in your community, contact your local child protective service office for information.



Keeping Children Safe



Reporting Abuse and Neglect

Texas law requires caregivers to report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services or law enforcement. Call **1-800-252-5400** to make confidential reports. Failure to report suspected abuse or neglect is a crime. Employers are prohibited from retaliating against caregivers who make reports in good faith.

Protecting Children

Shaken Baby Syndrome is the result of violently shaking young children. Injuries can include brain swelling and damage, subdural hemorrhaging, mental retardation and death.

NEVER SHAKE A BABY!

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS, is the unexplained death of a sleeping baby. Always place infants to sleep on their backs on a firm surface, free from soft items such as quilts, pillows or toys.



Unsafe Children's Products

Recalls of unsafe consumer products, including children's products, are available. It is easy and free to find out. Just go to the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission web site at www.cpsc.gov or you may access the recall information at the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services web site at www.dfps.state.tx.us.

Keeping Children Healthy

Protect children from illness and disease:

- Wash your hands and children's hands often.
- Immunize children.
- Keep ill children at home.
- Learn CPR and First Aid.
- Make sure that children drink plenty of water.
- Discuss special-care needs with caregivers.
- Learn more about childhood diabetes, which impairs a body's ability to regulate blood sugar levels, and other medical conditions from your child's health-care provider.



Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
www.dfps.state.tx.us

* Texas Family Code, Title 5, The Parent-Child Relationship and the Suit Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship, Subtitle E, Protection of the Child, Chapter 261, Investigation of Report of Child Abuse or Neglect, Subchapter B, Report of Abuse or Neglect; Immunities

F2958-0000

SULPHUR SPRINGS ISD HEAD START TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Bus # _____ Child's Name _____ Child's Teacher _____

To All Head Start Parents and Guardians:

The following are some general rules and guidelines that apply to Sulphur Springs ISD **Head Start buses**. If your child rides a **Head Start Bus (including field trips)**, you **must** comply with the following rules for your child to continue riding the Head Start bus. As a program, our staff must adhere to the following rules and guidelines to remain in compliance with Head Start Regulations and Performance Standards.

1. Please keep in mind that Head Start bus routes may seem long, hot and/or cold for some children, depending on the season of the year.
2. Please be aware that drop-off and pick-up times for bus routes may be off schedule (vary) during these times: 1st week of school, inclement weather, construction, bus trouble and early release days.
3. Please call the bus barn by 6:00 a.m. to report if the child will not be riding the bus for the morning pick up. Number to call 903-885-2153 ext. 1161. If you do not notify the bus barn, after three misses, you will need to contact Lisa Sawyer at 903-885-4516 ext. 4140 to continue bus service.
4. **IMPORTANT:** A parent or designated adult **MUST accompany** children to and from the bus.
5. Please be aware that the bus is **not allowed** to honk for you and/or your child to come outside; neither is the bus allowed to wait for you to come outside or walk a distance to the bus. Please be at your pick-up or drop-off point at least 3-5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
6. Buses are on a timed schedule. They must adhere to those schedules as closely as possible. Therefore, bus drivers have been instructed not to wait for you to get to the bus stop in the morning and afternoons. You must be at your scheduled pick-up and drop-off point at least 3-5 minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
7. If a parent or designated adult is not there to meet the bus for child pick-up in the afternoon, your child will be **brought back to Douglass Early Childhood Learning Center**, 600 Calvert Street. The phone number at Douglass ECLC is: 903.885.4516. A parent or guardian will be responsible for picking the child up from Douglass ECLC. **Please note, there will be no one available to transport your child back to your home or any other designated stop.**
8. If you live in a rural area and your child is not going to ride the bus in the morning due to illness or some other reason, please notify the campus secretary. Please tell them your child's name, Head Start bus number, and that your child will not be riding the bus that day. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated. This process will save the bus driver a trip to your designated pick-up point that morning.
9. If your child falls into an inconsistent pattern of riding the bus, they may be in jeopardy of losing their riding privileges. Please communicate with your bus driver regarding any extended periods of bus absences.
10. If you know in advance that your child **will not** be riding the bus for some reason, you should also inform your bus driver and/or the campus secretary at 903.885.4516.
11. Phone numbers listed on the Student ID card will be checked randomly throughout the school year; therefore, it is very important that you inform your child's teacher and bus driver of these changes.
12. To save time and keep the buses running on schedule, please ensure that your child has their backpack on, shoes tied, jackets and coats zipped, and have made a last "potty run," etc.; by doing so, you will have made an appreciated contribution to help keep the buses run on time and on schedule.

13. If your child has to cross the street to board or exit the bus, a parent/guardian must accompany the child across the street. We kindly ask that you **please** hold the child's hand until he/she boards/exits the bus and safely makes it to the other side of the street.
14. **PLEASE WATCH FOR TRAFFIC!!! NOT EVERYONE STOPS FOR BUSES!!!**
15. No food or drinks are allowed on the bus, **except** during hot weather. During hot weather children are allowed to bring a bottle of water, labeled with their name on it.
16. Toys are **only allowed** on the bus at the teachers request for a classroom or group activity. When your child has to bring a toy for a classroom activity/project, please label the toy with your child's name.
17. **Please do not put medicines in your child's backpack.** All medication must be handed to the bus driver or monitor with a note giving permission for the child to receive the medicine at school. Although the medicine is labeled; you must send a note along with the medication. The note **must** include dosage instructions.
18. Students displaying inappropriate behavior on the bus will be reported to the Head Start Director. A course of action will then be determined regarding the behavior. Parents will be notified of the course of action to be taken.
19. Children must be willing to board the bus. This is an independent effort on the child's part. The driver, monitor, parent/guardian **will not/cannot** force the child to board the bus. Should this situation occur, the parent/guardian must make other arrangements for the child to be transported to and from school.
20. Head Start **does not** allow temporary, or one day changes to a student's pick-up and drop-off location. Parents **must** make other arrangements should the need arise for temporary service. (In addition, bus routes will not accommodate sporadic pick-up, or drop-off arrangements, i.e., Monday-Home; Wednesday-Babysitter, Friday-Grandmothers House).
21. Please be aware children will not be picked up at one address and dropped off at another. The morning and afternoon address must be the same.
22. Please be advised that there are **limited seats on ALL Head Start buses**. Should you move/change addresses that are out-of-range of the bus that your child currently rides, your child may or may not have a seat on another Head Start bus. The program **cannot guarantee** your child a seat on another bus.
23. Please be aware that if your child loses a seat on the Head Start bus due to a move/change of address, etc. and there are no available seats on the Head Start bus in your area, your child's name will be placed on a waiting list for the Head Start bus in the area which you reside.
24. If you desire to add a name to your parent/guardian pick-up list, you **must** give the bus driver a hand-written note **and** contact the Head Start Director at 903.885.4516.
25. In the event that you must notify someone (friend, family member, neighbor, etc.) at the last minute to get your child off of the bus, that individual **MUST** present the bus driver or monitor with a hand-written note and picture ID before your child will be allowed to exit the bus.

These guidelines **may not** be exhaustive and inclusive of all the rules and regulations for Head Start buses. They are subject to change as the need arises. Sulphur Springs ISD Head Start greatly appreciates your support and we look forward to a wonderful school year. Should you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the Head Start Director at 903.885.4516.

 Head Start 

Parent and Family

Resource Guide

2023-2024



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EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Education for Children Age 3 and Pre-K-12	
Douglass ECLC 600 Calvert Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-4516 Head Start 3's, 4's, Pre-K 4, ECSE	Barbara Bush Primary 390 N. Hillcrest Drive Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903)439-6170 Grades K-3
Bowie Primary 1400 Mockingbird Lane Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-3772 Grades K-3	Rowena Johnson Primary 825 Church Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-4550 Grades K-3
Travis Primary 130 Garrison Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-5246 Grades K-3	Sulphur Springs Elementary 829 Bell Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-8466 Grades 4-5
Sulphur Springs Middle School 835 Wildcat Way Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-7741 Grades 6-8	Sulphur Springs High School 1200 Connally Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-2158 Grades 9-12
Special Services 219 Ponder Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-6230	SSISD Administration Building 631 Connally Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-2153
Adult Education	
Paris Junior College 1137 Loop 301 East Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-1232 <u>Services Offered:</u> College classes towards degree, Preparation for GED test and college entrance exams, as well as certification programs in welding, 3D printing, Nurses Aid, Dental Assistant, etc. Go to ParisJC.edu and click on career coach and take a 60-question assessment to find out what may be a good career choice for you.	



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

<p>Texas Workforce 1513 Houston Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-7556 Job Search</p>	<p>Vocational Rehabilitation 1513 Houston Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 251-4792 Assists individuals with physical or mental disabilities that are in the workforce or want to be in the workforce.</p>
<p>Resume Help/Job Search workintexas.com Assists individuals to create a resume and find employment opportunities in the area.</p>	<p>texasjobdepartment.com Job Search to find employment opportunities in the area.</p>



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

<p>Sulphur Springs ISD After School Program</p>	<p>Lil 4's</p>
<p>Located at Barbara Bush Primary 390 N. Hillcrest Drive Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (214) 422-2477 or (214) 862-3407 <u>Services offered:</u> Help with homework, enrichment games, healthy snack. Ages 4-12. Closes at 6:00 pm.</p>	<p>200 Fuller Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (214) 809-1908 <u>Services offered:</u> No cost after school program, dinner provided, help with homework. Ages 5-18. Closes at 6:00 pm. Donations welcome at Guaranty Bank.</p>



MEDICAL RESOURCES

<p>Carevide 105 II Medical Plaza Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-1730 Pediatric Care. Accepts Medicaid.</p>	<p>Christus Trinity Clinic Dr. Tod Connor 113 Airport Road, Suite 301 (903) 885-5439 Pediatric Care.</p>
<p>Jordan's Place Pediatrics Dr. Sherry Barclay 1317 N Hillcrest Drive Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 438-1110 Pediatric Care. Accepts Medicaid. Open 7:30am.-6:00 pm.</p>	<p>Heart of Hope 407 S. Davis Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 951-1822 Free pregnancy test, sonograms, parenting classes, baby boutique and maternity clothing (earn points to shop).</p>
<p>Christus Trinity Clinic Urgent Care 1339 S. Broadway Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 951-1001 Open 9:00am.-5:00 pm.</p>	<p>Hopkins Minor Emergency Center 106 Hodge Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-2911 Open 8:00 am.-8:00 pm.</p>
<p>Christus Mother Francis Hospital 115 Airport Road Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-7671 911 Emergency Services</p>	<p>Hopkins County Community Action Network (HCCAN) 613 Gilmer St. Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-9797 or 211 for local resources Referral information to address families with medical needs.</p>
<p>WIC Office 421 W. Industrial Drive, Suite 209 Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-2813 Open M: 10:00am.-7:00pm., T-F: 8:30am.-5:30pm. Services for pregnant women and children.</p>	<p>Texas Department State Services 1400 College Street, Suite 167 Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-6573 Open M-F: 8:00am.-5:00pm. by apt only Call to Qualify.</p>
<p>cancer.org Services for cancer patients and their families.</p>	<p>Eyecare of Greenville 4501 Joe Ramsey Blvd. E. Ste 110, Greenville (903) 454-1886, Takes Traditional Medicaid</p>



DENTAL RESOURCES

<p>Dr. Sharon Hatcher 1013 Gilmer Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 438-8125 Dental Care for all ages. Accepts Medicaid.</p>	<p>Pediatric Dentist 804 Gilmer Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-3600 Dental care for infants, children, and adolescents.</p>
<p>Broadway Smiles 1707 S. Broadway, Suite 10 Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 951-1244</p>	<p>South First Dental 1139 Broadway Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 438-2200</p>



COUNSELING RESOURCES

<p>Ginger Brooks and Elise Douglas 2121 Main Street, Sulphur Springs (903) 885-2776 Counseling Services for children and families.</p>	<p>Heritage Christian Counseling Cntr 212 Connally Street, Sulphur Springs (903) 438-9673 Counseling Services. Fees charged on a sliding scale.</p>
<p>Community Psychology Clinic at A&M East Texas Street, Room 101, Binnion Hall Commerce, TX 75482 (903) 886-5660 Counseling Services. Fees charged on a sliding scale.</p>	<p>Glen Oaks Hospital 301 E. Division Greenville, TX 75402 (800) 443-1109 (24 Hour Hotline) Treatment of drug, alcohol, or emotional problems. Ages 5 and up. Accepts most insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid.</p>
<p>Lakes Regional Community Center 655 Airport Rd. Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 438-3270 Adult mental health disorders clinic and substance use services. Emergency Hotline (877) 466-0660</p>	<p>Stephen Ministries Located at First United Methodist Church 301 Church St. Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-2185 Emotional and spiritual care for any crisis or difficulty. Visit www.ssfumc.org.</p>
<p>New Life Group Recovery group for AA, Mon & Wed, 7-8:00, (903) 885-2185, FUMC, SS, TX</p>	



CHILD CARE RESOURCES

<p>Child Care Assistance</p> <p>Workforce Solutions 1513 Houston Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-7556 workintexas.com</p>	<p>Little Texans Learning Center</p> <p>1215 S. Davis Street Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-3011 Provides care for children from birth-13 years. Provides transportation to and from public schools. Open 5:30am.-5:30pm.</p>
<p>ECI Lakes Regional</p> <p>4804 Wesley Street Greenville, TX 75401 (903) 454-0300 Ext. 1600 Provides early childhood intervention services for children ages 0-3.</p>	<p>Texas Benefits Center</p> <p>(866) 693-6978, resources available for pregnant women and children 3 and under. Healthcare, financial, food, childcare, and housing.</p>



TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

<p>Ark-Tex Trax</p> <p>(844) 437-7497 Provides Transportation Adults over the age of 60 and children under 12 are free. Individuals 12 and older pay \$1 each way under 10 miles, and \$2 each way over 10 miles.</p>	<p>Non-Emergency Medical Transportation</p> <p>(877) 633-8747 MTM will help set up rides for people in the Texas Medicaid and Children with Special Health Care Needs programs who do not have another way to get to covered healthcare appointments with their healthcare providers.</p>
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LEGAL RESOURCES

<p>Attorney General's Office</p> <p>(800) 687-8259 Assists clients in obtaining child support and medical support.</p>	<p>Probation Department of Texas</p> <p>Adult: 885-7851/Juvenile: 885-8041 Supervises misdemeanor/felony probationers and assists with delinquents/children in need of supervision.</p>
<p>Loan Star Legal Aid</p> <p>164 SE 6th Street, Paris, TX (903) 785-8711. Provides legal services at no cost for low-income individuals. No criminal work.</p>	



FOOD, HOUSING AND UTILITIES

American Red Cross 2673 N. Main Street, Suite J Paris, TX 75460 (903) 737-4390 Emergency services for disaster victims. Emergency communication with the armed forces.	Housing Department 1 (800) 988-3331 Rental Assistance for low-income families, Section 8 and HUD Housing. Based on family composition and income.
Goodwill 1320 Shannon Road (903) 885-7460 Low cost clothing and household goods.	Salvation Army (214) 956-6000 Provides guidance for finding resources as well as Christmas assistance starting in November.
CanHelp 613 Gilmer St., Sulphur Springs, TX 75482 (903) 885-9797 or 211 for local resources. Food, hygiene supplies, coats, blankets, box fans, financial planning, medical, thrift shop. Medicaid/Food Stamp Assistance.	Community Chest (903) 885-3452, Tues and Thurs: 8:00am.-11:00am., 1:00pm.-3:00pm. Provides once-a-month food assistance, once-a- year utility bill assistance, every 3 months dental and eye vouchers for exams as well as prescription help through Cody Drug. Every 4 months gas voucher for medical appointments over 50 miles away.
Department of State Services 1400 College Street, Suite 167, Sulphur Springs (903) 885-9561, Food Stamps/Medicaid	Texas Benefits Center (866) 693-6978, resources available for pregnant women and children 3 and under. Healthcare, financial, food, childcare, and housing.



DISABILITY SERVICES

Lakes Regional (Dayhab) 655 Airport Road (903) 438-3270 Provides services for individuals who are developmentally delayed.	Health and Human Services 1400 College Street (903) 439-9231 Program for the elderly. In-home assistance with cleaning/cooking.
Social Security Administration (800) 772-1213	Disability Rights Texas (800) 880-2884
Texas Commission For the Blind	
https://hhs.texas.gov/services/disability/blind-visually-impaired	



COVID-19 RESOURCES

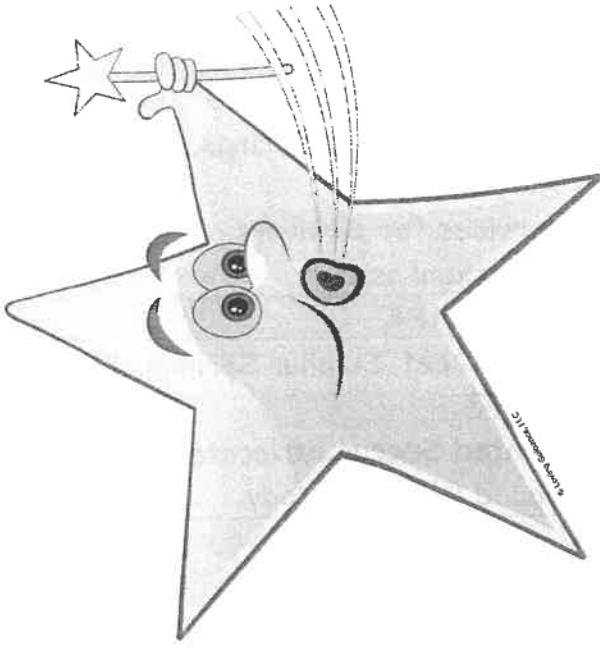
What to do if you are exposed to Covid-19	Covid-19 Mental Health Support
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html	(888) 843-1315 24/7 Helpline for individuals struggling with challenges related to Covid-19.
Symptoms of Covid-19	
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html If you have an emergency warning sign/symptom, including trouble breathing, go to your nearest emergency center or call 911.	



ABUSE / NEGLECT RESOURCES

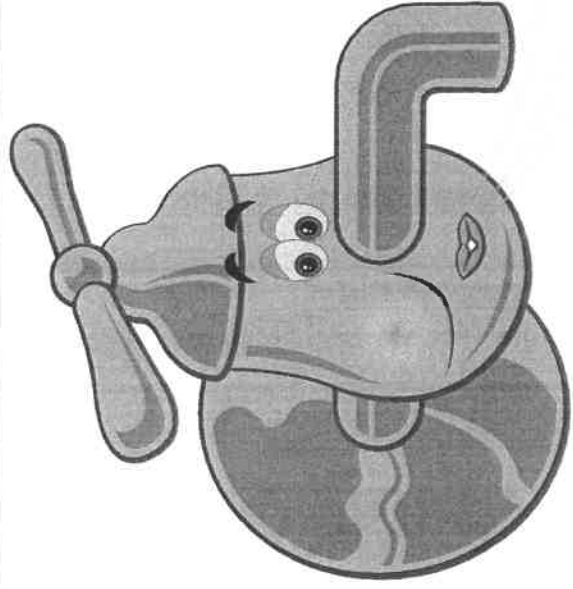
Texas Abuse Reporting Hotline	
24 Hour Hotline (800) 252-5400 Call to report abuse to children, elderly or disabled persons. Provide information and respond to questions or concerns regarding child abuse or neglect. All calls are confidential. Any person who has cause to believe that a child has been or may be neglected is required to report this information.	
Child Find of America	Safe-T
(800) 426-5678 Search for missing children under 18, nationwide.	Sulphur Springs (903) 439-0325 1716 Posey Lane, Sulphur Springs, TX Hotline (903) 575-0973 Provides services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.
Texas Dept of Human Services-Foster Care	Hopkins County CASA
Trains and supervises people who keep children who have been removed from their homes by the Dept of Regulatory & Protective Services.	218 Connally Street, Sulphur Springs, TX (903) 885-1173 Court Appointed Special Advocates for children placed in CPS custody.

*Revised 8/17/2023



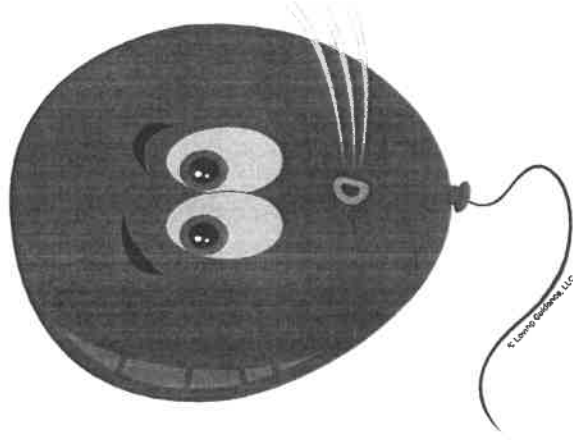
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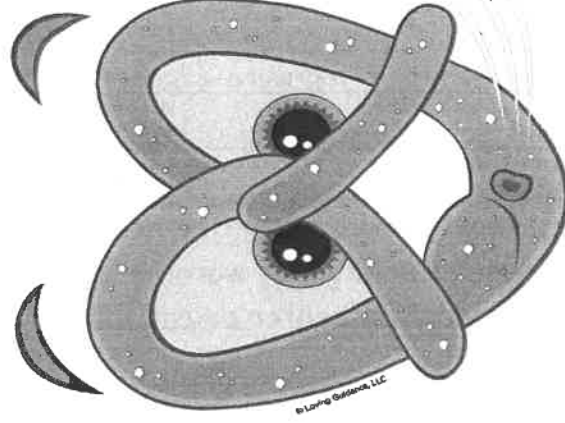
Drain

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