



TK/KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT 2021-2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you can imagine, COVID 19 has changed our programs dramatically!

We are hopeful the 2021-2022 school year will be back to familiar with in-person school days. Footsteps Child Care continues to operate and has offered learning pods this school year and preschool programming since June 1. Our group size is limited to 14 children with two staff members and we are following the four pillars for health and safety is being strictly followed.

The information below is based on us providing traditional out of school time care with children in class five days per week. If this does not happen, we will continue to provide care within protocols and restrictions in place at the time of school reopening.

Thank you for your interest in our child care services at the Cipriani, Redwood Shores, and or Nesbit School sites. We also serve Kindergarten children who attend Fox and Central Schools at our off-site location, Footsteps@Barrett, in partnership with the City of Belmont.

Footsteps Child Care, Inc. is a parent organized, not-for-profit Corporation operating on-site at Cipriani School, Nesbit School, and Ralston Middle School in Belmont and Redwood Shores Elementary School in Redwood Shores. We have been in operation since 1994. We also operate a full day preschool programs at three locations with a fourth location opening on July 6, 2021 in Redwood City. The new program will serve infants-preschool.

Our **mission** is to provide infants, children, youth, and their families quality programs in a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment, through caring and professional staff and family involvement. The program provides children with opportunities to learn and develop new skills through a variety of play experiences and includes free choice activities, homework assistance, healthy snack, science, arts and crafts, music, movement, non-competitive games, sports, neighborhood outings, field trips, and activity clubs. The curriculum includes a variety of both group and individual activities (structured and non-structured), geared to their age level and ability.

Frequently Asked Questions

When can I enroll my child for child care for the school year 2021-2022?

In the past we began enrollment in April after BRSSD notified families about their school placement. With COVID-19 we are changing our registration process to take a pre-registration list of interested families, but we are unable to offer a space in our program until we know what the coming school year will look like and what community care licensing is allowing for group size. Siblings and families already attending a Footsteps program will be given priority enrollment. We will take pre-enrollment forms beginning April 1 2021, after you receive your child's school placement. Each form will be date and time stamped.

What types of schedules are available?

We offer three scheduling choices for our on-site locations. Before school care opens at 7:00 AM and we walk your child to their classroom when school begins and pick the children up directly from their classroom at dismissal time. You can choose before school care (Session One), after kindergarten care until 3:00 PM (Session Two), and/or afterschool care until 6:15 PM (Session Three), or a combination of the three schedules. We also offer a three-day per week and a five-day per week choice.

- **Barrett Location:** We offer before school care for both Fox and Central schools at Barrett Community Center. We open at 7:00AM and transport your child to either Fox or Central before school begins. We

pick up your child after Kindergarten dismissal at Fox and Central Schools and transport them to the Barrett Community Center. We only offer one afternoon schedule at Footsteps@Barrett, a five day a week schedule, from school dismissal until 6:15 PM. We will not offer care for TK students. You can choose before school or after school only or a combination of the two.

What are the costs?

2021-2022 rates and enrollment forms for each schedule and site will be posted on our website when available, www.footstepschildcare.org. We offer a 5% per child sibling discount for any sibling enrolled in a Footsteps Child Care program. We offer limited fee subsidies for families who qualify and cannot afford the full tuition.

What if I only need child care occasionally?

Depending on COVID restrictions and space availability, you may enroll your child as a “drop-in” and use our program on an as-needed basis, providing we have space available that day. There is an hourly drop-in rate, with a two hour minimum enrollment.

What about lunch?

The TK/Kindergarten children eat lunch with us at child care. You may send a lunch or order hot lunch through the school. On Wednesdays you may purchase lunch from the school hot lunch program, bring a healthy lunch from home, or purchase our pizza lunch. For \$6, your child will receive whole-wheat pizza, fruit or yogurt, and water. We provide daily afternoon snacks for those who stay beyond 3:00 PM. We have received the gold level Healthy Apple Award because we provide healthy nutritious snacks and ample physical activities.

What do we do when school is closed for holidays and breaks?

Our new policy for schools breaks will be to include these days in the monthly tuition for those who enroll five days per week for after-school care until 6:15. If spaces are available, it will be offered to part-time enrollees for an additional fee. We will close our programs the majority of federal holidays and for one week between Christmas and New Year.

Can my child start the summer before they enter TK/Kindergarten?

Yes, your child is welcome to attend our summer camps. This is a great way for the staff and children to become acquainted before the school year. Our summer plans are dependent upon restrictions due to Covid-19 and information will be available in the next few months. You can enroll your child on a weekly basis.

What are your admissions policies?

We are non-discriminatory in admission, giving equal access to services without regard to race, religion, place of national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or mental or physical ability. A parent or guardian is required to visit the site for an orientation before their child attends. We will make every effort to include children with special needs in our programs. Children who have special needs are considered for admission on an individual basis. The Site Director will meet with the parent or guardian before enrollment to determine if the program is the best environment for the child. Upon enrollment, staff and parents will continue to meet regularly to monitor the child’s progress and discuss how best to support the child. It is sometimes necessary to redirect children and their families, especially if we do not have facilities or staff to work with the child’s needs. In these cases, the Site Director and the child’s parent or guardian will decide if the center can properly meet the needs of the child.

Are your programs licensed and what is your adult to child ratios?

Our child to adult ratio is approximately 10:1 or less, which far exceeds licensing requirements of 14:1; and our staff meets all requirements of the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing. Our Footsteps@Cipriani Site license # is 410518969, our Footsteps@Nesbit Site License # is 414001160, and our Footsteps@Shores Site license # is 414002640. Footsteps@Barrett is a registered California Spanish Heritage School and is therefore exempt from licensure; our adult to child ratio is approximately 10:1. Thank you for your interest in our programs. We hope we can provide care for your family. If you have other questions, please contact our Administrative Office. My email is karen.haas-foletta@footstepschildcare.org.



Karen Haas-Foletta
Executive Director