



CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
MANAGED BY BRIGHT HORIZONS

From the Director

It has been exciting to watch the center continue to progress and many families in the neighborhood have been sharing updates as they have been walking by the center with their children. The center is close to receiving its Use and Occupancy permit and we are expecting to begin our move-in process by the first week in August. Playground equipment is scheduled to be installed towards the end of August. Licensing is currently reviewing our paperwork and we are waiting to be notified of a timeline for them to conduct their final inspection (this is dependent upon them returning to their office).

During the last month, we have been conducting interviews for our administrative staff, as well as our teaching staff. We are in the process of hiring 15 staff members and are continuing our recruitment efforts as we work to fill the remaining positions at the center. Our staff will be made up of current Bright Horizons staff members, University of Maryland students and newly hired staff who have been working in the early childhood field. We have also been working on our Emergency Preparedness Planning to secure our secondary evacuation sites for the center should we need them in the future.

Once we are moved in, we are hoping to be able to schedule visits. There is a strong possibility, based on the current COVID-19 situation, that these visits will initially be virtual. As we get closer to the opening date, look for an email which will provide the options that will be available to our families. In addition, we will share with you how our intake meetings will occur. This will be your opportunity to meet your child's teacher and hear about the classroom schedule, our safety procedures and get any questions answered you may have.

In the meantime, please feel free to email or call me if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you and your families.

Chrissy

Join Bright Horizons early childhood experts for the tips and information you need for learning – and living – at home. Use the links below to register for the webinars, live and/or on-demand. All webinars are scheduled for 3:00 p.m. ET.

Expanding Little Palates

Involve your children in activity making healthy food choices

Airs Live: Friday, July 10 | [Registration Link](#)

Major Milestones in Early Childhood

Find out what to look for and how to encourage growth and development

Airs Live: Monday, July 13 | [Registration Link](#)

The Joys (and Pains) of the Toddler Years

The toddler years can be the most rewarding and joyful – and the most challenging. Need help?

Airs Live: Friday, July 17 | [Registration Link](#)

The Joys (and Pains) of the Preschool years

The preschool years can pack a punch – there's so much growth and change. Need Help?

Airs Live: Friday, July 24 | [Registration Link](#)

Venturing Out Into a New World

Discuss how to navigate the transition to child care, work, and life outside the home

Airs Live: Friday, July 31 | [Registration Link](#)

Well Aware

Our Well Aware curriculum component includes fostering positive attitudes towards healthy living, physical activity, and nutrition by incorporating healthful habits into daily routines.

Infant Classroom

- ▶ **Movement:** participate in routines and rhythms that promote peaceful experiences; listen to music; move bodies for strong development
- ▶ **Nutrition:** taste and enjoy nutritious foods
- ▶ **Health and Safety:** participate in personal health care, such as washing hands

Toddler/Two Classroom

- ▶ **Healthy Living Practices:** explore foods; build large motor skills; participate in simple yoga/mindfulness exercises
- ▶ **Nature Experiences:** explore natural materials, gardens, plants, and animals
- ▶ **Bright Horizons Signature Practices:** daily sensory experiences and self-help skills

The Preschool Classroom

- ▶ **Healthy Living Practices:** participate in movement, mindfulness, and fitness activities
- ▶ **Nutrition and Safety:** identify nutritious foods; independently wash hands, put on coats, etc.
- ▶ **Nature Experiences:** observe plants and animals; grow a garden; and explore the natural world

The Kindergarten Prep Classroom

- ▶ **Healthy Living Practices:** yoga, mindfulness, and physical activity
- ▶ **Nutrition and Safety:** make healthy food choices; engage in cooking activities; take care of personal needs
- ▶ **Nature Experiences:** observe plants and animals; grow a garden; explore the natural world

Oly Pop

Bright Horizons' Health and Safety Mascot

In 2019, Bright Horizons introduced Olly Pop, a whimsical character that helps children learn about health and safety topics in a fun and age-appropriate way. Olly Pop's activities may include handwashing, healthy snack choices, personal safety (e.g. wearing a helmet or looking both ways before crossing the street), and wellness topics.

With the recent news of spreading illnesses like flu and coronavirus, it is more important than ever to continue to implement our strong health and safety practices with every child, every day. As children are learning to take care of themselves, we know that families too can benefit from continued focus on the importance of washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes, etc. Olly Pop is here to help ensure a focus on health and safety not only as part of our classroom curriculum, but to support families in these efforts at home as well. We consider personal wellness a learning opportunity like literacy and math. More information about the use of Olly Pop in your child's classroom will come as we get closer to opening.

Healthy habits we will focus on in the classroom & ideas for home:

- ▶ Handwashing with soap and warm water before meals and after playing outdoors, handling animals, or using a tissue.
- ▶ Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or into the elbow.
- ▶ Throwing tissues in the trash.
- ▶ Using hand sanitizer when soap and water isn't available.

Extend the learning at home. Here are just a few "at-home" ideas:

- ▶ Keep facial tissues where your child can easily reach them. Child-safe mirrors can also help your child clean his or her face independently. Download our "Don't Spread Germs" poster to show your child how to cover coughs and sneezes.
- ▶ Encourage your child to help clean by providing materials like paper towels and spray bottles containing soapy water. Note that children should not help with sanitizing.
- ▶ Encourage your child to help with keeping belongings clean by creating a washing station in a sink for baby dolls and other toys. Fun and clean at the same time!
- ▶ Children learn through imaginary play. Help them set up a doctor's office or a school for dolls or stuffed animals so they can roleplay caring for others and staying healthy. Hikes, and parks worth exploring in your area.



Making Progress!

Final inspections on the interior and exterior of the center, including the elevator, are being conducted and all the finishing touches are being completed.

Parent information boards have been installed outside of all of the classrooms.

Final window placements are occurring downstairs.



Bright Horizons is Recruiting!

At Bright Horizons, our hiring process is important to us. Our hiring decisions are made carefully and thoughtfully to ensure our employees are well matched for not only the company, but also for them personally. We're looking for team members who fulfill the important responsibility of guiding the development of young children at the University of Maryland Child Development Center

If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please refer him or her to the “[Careers](#)” section of Bright Horizons’ website to apply or [learn more](#).

University of Maryland Child Development Center

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Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

