

Partnering with MECK Pre-K

to serve Mecklenburg County families



Dena Diorio
Mecklenburg County
Manager



Trinisha Dean
MECK Pre-K
Executive Director



Anabel Paniagua-Doyle
MECK Pre-K Community
Outreach Recruiter



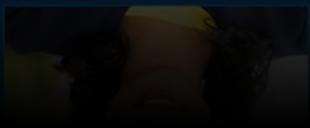
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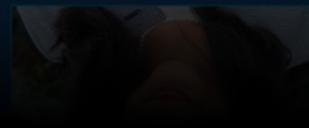
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for Children
Mecklenburg Partnership
smart start







Partnering With MECK Pre-K

To Serve Mecklenburg County Families

February 2021



Agenda

- 1 Welcome/Vision
- 2 Introduction to MECK Pre-K
- 3 How MECK Pre-K Works for Families
- 4 Partnering With MECK Pre-K



Presenters



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*Mecklenburg County
Manager*



Trinisha Dean
*MECK Pre-K
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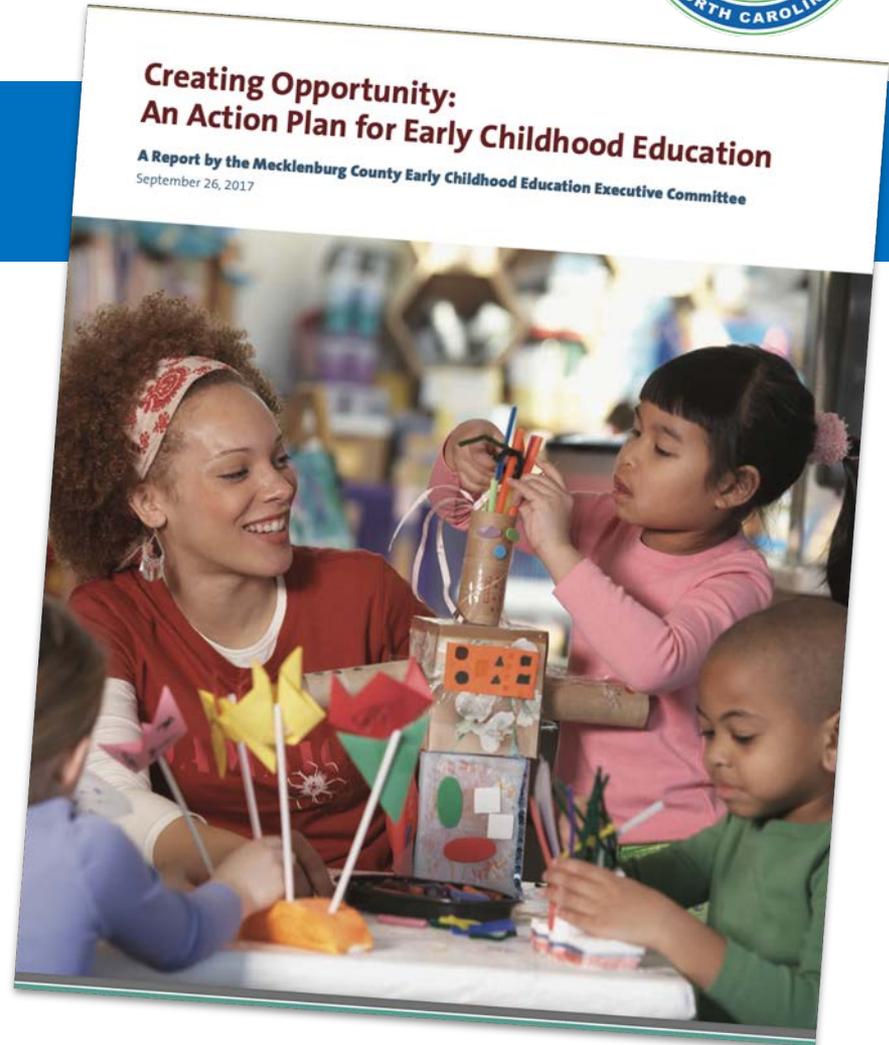
The Need For MECK Pre-K



Vision of Universal Pre-K for Mecklenburg County

2015 Leading on Opportunity Report

- 2015 County's Vision
- 2017 Action Plan
- 2018 MECK Pre-K First Year
- 2019 MECK Pre-K Second Year
- 2020 MECK Pre-K Third Year



Success Story: The Community Comes Together!





Part I

Introduction to MECK Pre-K





Smart Start and MPK



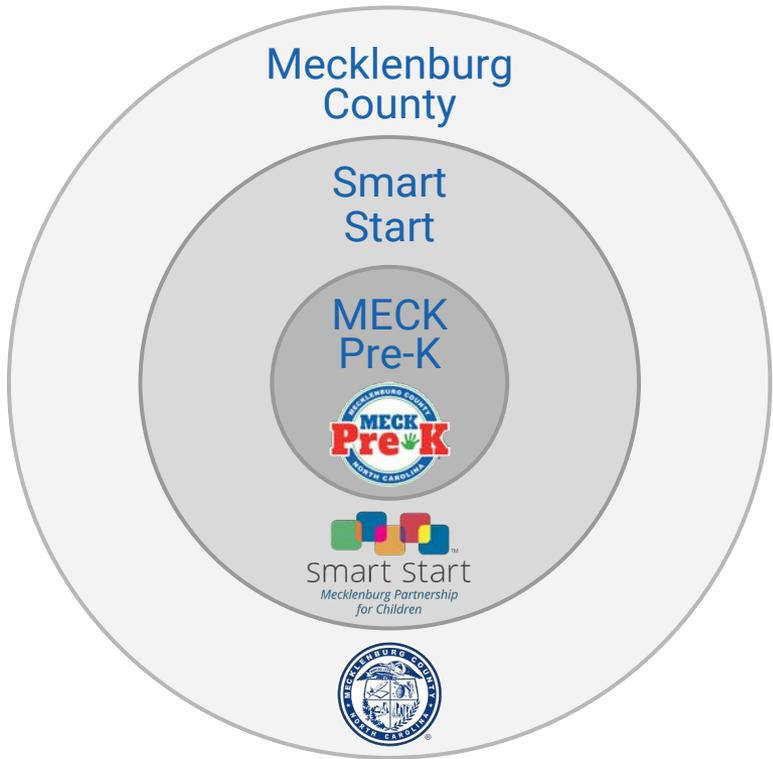
Smart Start
Mecklenburg Partnership
for Children

Smart Start of Mecklenburg County

mobilizes resources, forges partnerships, and supports families to improve early childhood health, education and development, and ensure children are prepared for kindergarten.



MECK Pre-K is a county-funded program administered by Smart Start and an essential part of the early education process to help children and their families succeed in kindergarten and beyond.



Meet MECK Pre-K



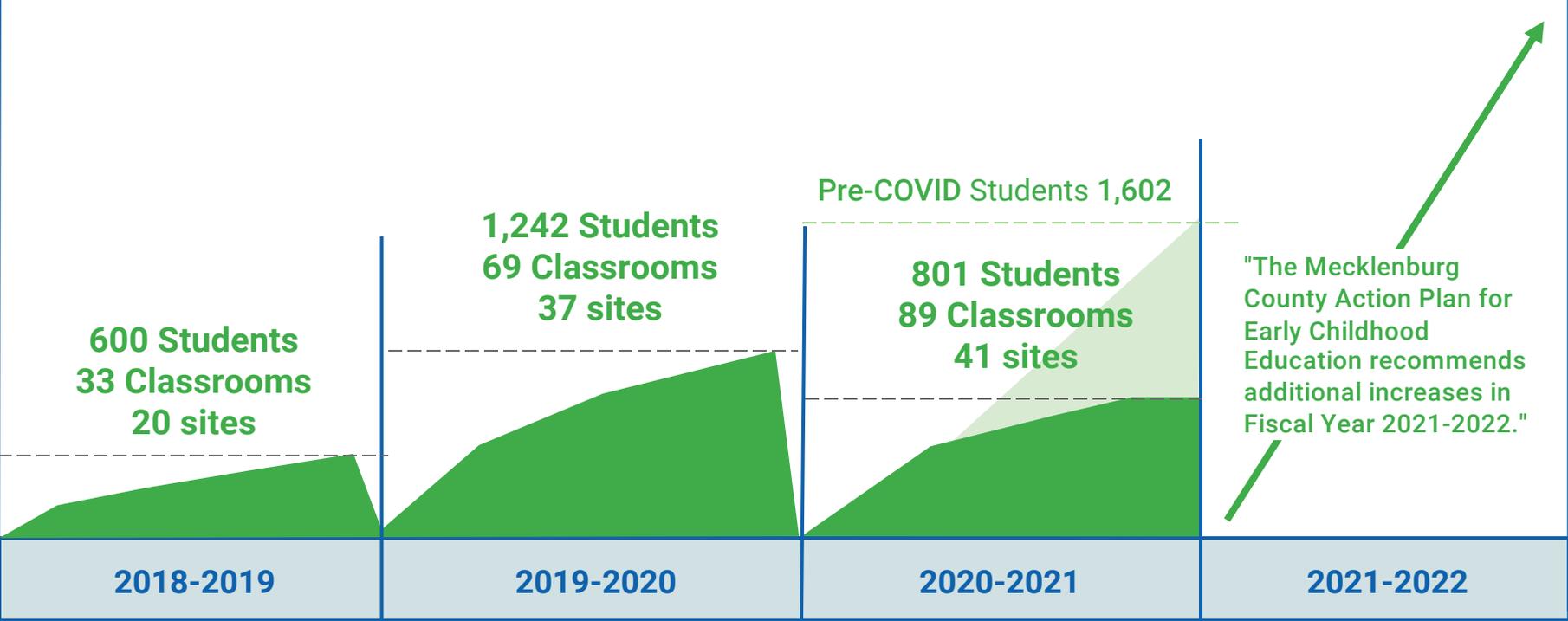
MECK Pre-K is a Mecklenburg County-funded program that offers free, quality pre-kindergarten to eligible four-year-old children.

Income restrictions have been lifted for the 2020-21 school year in response to COVID-19 challenges for families experiencing financial hardships. Priority has been given to lower income families.

MECK Pre-K Grows Then Restarts Every Year



Growth Towards Universal Pre-K in Mecklenburg County



We need continued support from Partners to fill the increased number of slots!



All About Quality

Teacher Qualifications (UNCC-CPCC Partnership)

MECK Pre-K teachers must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in early childhood, child development, or related field and have a BK (birth through kindergarten) license or be working toward BK licensure.

MECK Pre-K teacher assistants must have or be working towards a minimum of an associate's degree in early childhood education or child development.



All About Quality

Investments Toward Quality

Financial Support for teachers with an associate’s degree in early childhood education who want a bachelor’s degree.

A Pilot Program to train 50 teachers for MECK Pre-K over the next two years. Teachers will be able to obtain their birth-to-kindergarten license while tuition, fees and other expenses like childcare are paid for.

Early Childhood Life Navigators at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) to help students respond to obstacles and help them stay in school.

Assistance to Staff working in childcare centers to earn their associate’s degree, by providing scholarships and support for them to attend CPCC.



Teacher Testimonials

“Our goal is to prepare each child for kindergarten and the grades to follow. To give them an idea of what school will be like, its rhythms and routines. To level the playing field so that every child has an opportunity to be successful in the classroom and in life outside of class. Yes, we teach the fundamentals – their ABC’s and 1-2-3’s. But, we do it in a way that develops the whole child, and that helps them flourish in the world beyond the classroom.”

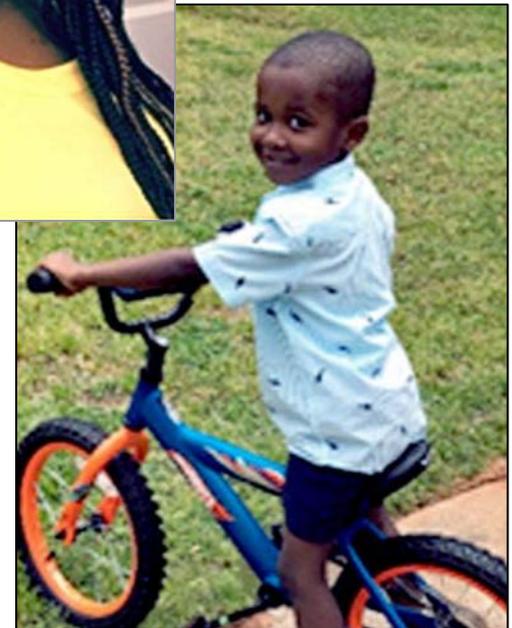
- Mandy Petrillo, Teacher Assistant



Parent Testimonials

“I am so thankful for MECK Pre-K. I know the program has been helpful to Emory. He’s learning so many new things. One day he is telling me about the solar system and the next day, he is telling me about storm clouds. He is just soaking up all the lessons with an excitement that’s great to see. He knows his letters now and can write his name. He also enjoys the read-alouds and I like reading with him in the evening. Emory is smart. He has learned so much. I know he will be ready for kindergarten and we have MECK Pre-K to thank for that.”

- Tiffany, MECK Pre-K Parent



Parent Testimonials

“My daughter is much more social and has warmed up to the idea of being away from me or her grandmother everyday. She thrives from a structure and enjoys knowing exactly what she will be doing daily. I love the placement she received. Her teachers and the entire preschool staff are fantastic. I know the quality of education and services she is receiving is what she deserves, but I would not be able to afford. If she was not part of the MECK Pre-K program, she would be doing pre-k virtually and would not be thriving the way she is now.”

- Brittney, MECK Pre-K Parent



COVID-19 Response

Leading the Response

Carefully monitored the health situation and consulted with officials from Mecklenburg County, the NC Division of Public Health and the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

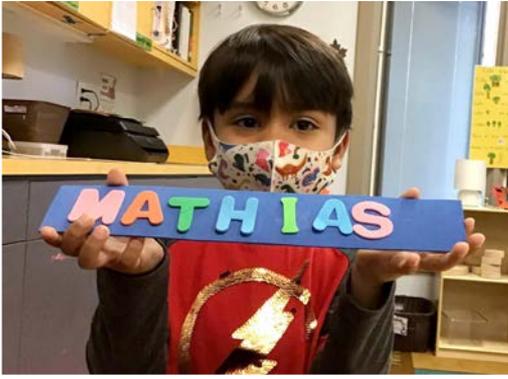
Led the charge for safely returning to in-person instruction.

Worked with centers to ensure adherence to local directives and NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) health and safety protocols.



COVID-19 Response

The Safe Classroom Experience





Part II

How MECK Pre-K Works For Families



MECK Pre-K Requirements



Child must live in Mecklenburg County



Child must be age four on or before August 31 of that year

Other considerations may include income, military status and other demonstrated needs.





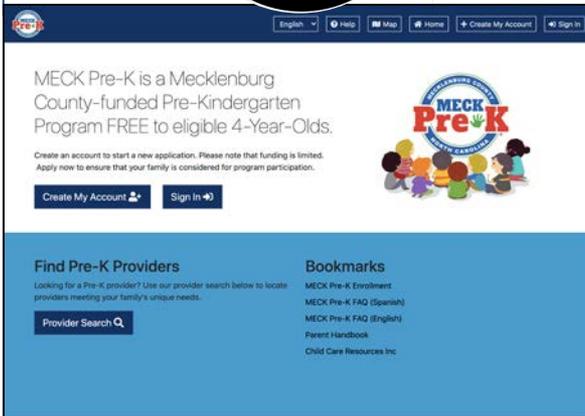
Year-Round Registration

Registration launches *March 1st for the coming school year.



Ways to Apply

Online at MeckPreK.org



By Mail



In Person



Scan to Email or Fax



How to Apply



Apply Online

For your convenience, you can now [apply online](#) on a computer, tablet or smartphone. If you are unable to apply online, [contact us](#) to request an application. We're here to help!



Upload Documents

MECK Pre-K requires certain documents to verify your child's eligibility. You can securely upload these to the online application. Your application will not be complete until you have provided all required documentation.



Check Your Mailbox

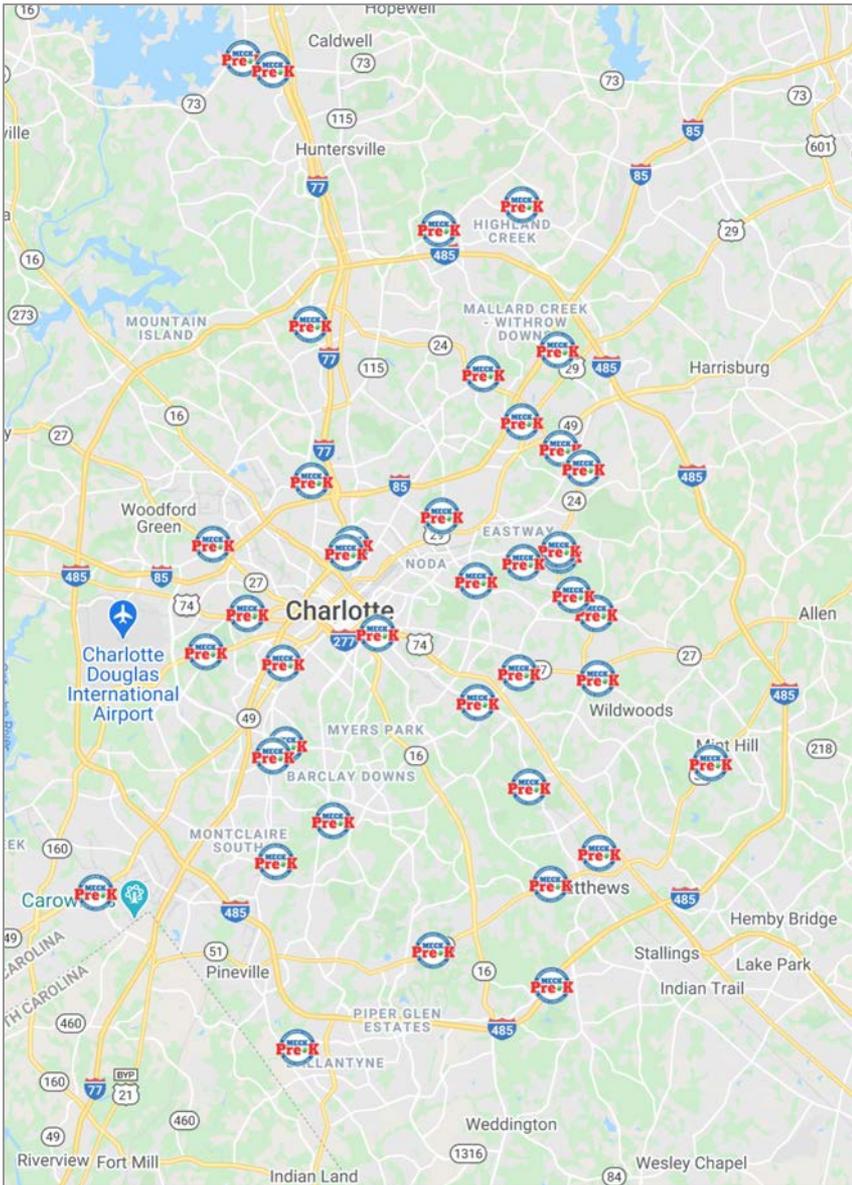
You will receive a email or letter notifying you that your child is officially accepted into MECK Pre-K! Be sure to share the news with your friends and neighbors by posting on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube!

[Click to Apply Online!](#)

What We Need from Families

-  Completed Application
-  Name and Age of Your Child
-  Personal Identification
-  Mecklenburg County Residency
-  Income Documentation





Locations



MECK Pre-K programs are located in high-quality **four- and five-star childcare centers** throughout Mecklenburg County.

Some sites provide transportation for a nominal fee.

COVID-19 Update

Operations During COVID-19

To ensure the safety of children, families, teachers and providers, MECK Pre-K has made the following changes:

1. Class sizes have been reduced to allow for social distancing.
2. MECK Pre-K leadership is having regular operational/health/policy check-ins with State and Local Departments of Health and Human Services, Mecklenburg County, Smart Start Leadership and Child Care Resources staff.
3. Mecklenburg County Public Health Leadership is hosting sessions for MECK Pre-K Providers and Teachers.
4. MECK Pre-K is working with providers to ensure that they adhere to required NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) health and safety protocols.
5. MECK Pre-K and providers are providing regular communications to enrolled families about COVID-19 safety.





Part III

Partnering with MECK Pre-K





Partnership Stories...



NOVANT Health Partners

attended one of our Registration Drive-Thru events.

Families picking up and dropping off documents for the 2020-2021 school year received masks for their whole family in an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Together, NOVANT and MECK Pre-K were able to provide a great service to Charlotte families.



Camino Community Center

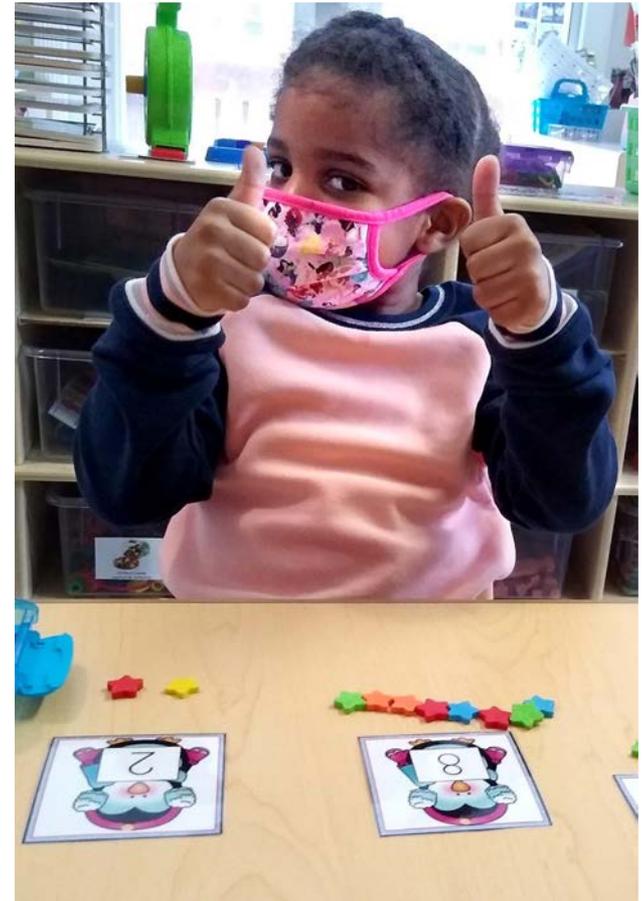
put together a community event and invited MECK pre-K along with other agencies and entities participated to create a multipurpose event.

The event included mask distribution by Atrium Health, Census 2020 & voter registration and information, food distribution and a MECK Pre-K table to collect information from future MECK Pre-K families and distribute information, books and other “swag.”



Partnering is Easy

-  Be sure the families you work with know about the MECK Pre-K opportunity.
-  Join our newsletter email list and follow us on social media for the latest information; have your key staff and families join too!
-  Provide MECK Pre-K registration information on your website and social media channels to make sure your families don't miss out!
-  Let's host events together!



Partner Toolkit



COVID-19 Safety Measures

MECK Pre-K

COVID-19 Safety Measures

- Staggered drop-off and pick-up times to limit direct contact with parents/caregivers as much as possible. Centers will provide instructions to families with specific instructions tailored to their locations.
- Daily health screening of any person entering the building, including children, staff and approved visitors, to identify symptoms, diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19.
- Screening details in a Daily Health Screening Log.
- Face masks (if) worn at entrance and in classrooms to promote face coverings, social distancing and hand washing.
- Hand washing with soap, frequent use of hand sanitizer and tissues, and frequent hygiene breaks.
- Isolation of anyone who shows COVID-19 symptoms, followed by sending them home safely as soon as possible.
- Mandatory quarantine or quarantine of children or staff who have tested positive for COVID-19, have COVID-19 symptoms, or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms.
- Masking "bubbles" - groups of children in assigned rooms throughout the day with the same childcare provider.
- Daily health screening of any person entering the building including children, staff and approved visitors, to identify symptoms, diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19.
- Face coverings for all staff and for children over the age of 2 when possible.
- Regular cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched objects and surfaces (such as toys, tables, doorknobs, elevator keys, etc.).
- Prioritizing outdoor time when possible.

These mitigation measures were developed using NC Dept. of Health and Human Services Interim Guidance for Child Care Settings.

COVID-19 Safety

2020-2021 Site Locations

MECK Pre-K

Ubicaciones de los locales para el 2020-2021

ZIP CODE	CITY	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	WEBSITE
27013	CHARLOTTE	CLAYTON	10000 CLAYTON RD	704.366.1111	www.meckprek.org
27013	CHARLOTTE	CLAYTON	10000 CLAYTON RD	704.366.1111	www.meckprek.org
27013	CHARLOTTE	CLAYTON	10000 CLAYTON RD	704.366.1111	www.meckprek.org
27013	CHARLOTTE	CLAYTON	10000 CLAYTON RD	704.366.1111	www.meckprek.org
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27013	CHARLOTTE	CLAYTON	10000 CLAYTON RD	704.366.1111	www.meckprek.org

Site Locations

Applying for MECK Pre-K is as easy as 1-2-3!

MECK Pre-K

Apply Online

Our new online application makes it easy to apply!

- Fast application and track it online.
- Upload your documentation in one place.
- Ready for multiple children with one account.
- Available in English and Spanish.
- Check back for next available dates.

Upload Documents

MECK Pre-K requires certain documents to verify your child's eligibility. You can securely upload them to the online application. Your application will not be reviewed until you have provided all the required documentation.

Check Your Mailbox

This will allow you to email notifying you that your application is officially accepted into MECK Pre-K. We will have your child's teacher and caregiver know about MECK Pre-K by sharing on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube!

Call or visit MECK Pre-K at 704.366.1111 or visit www.meckprek.org

Easy Application Guide

MECK Pre-K Social Media Content

MECK Pre-K

Posting Tips

Facebook and Instagram Sample Posts

Twitter Sample Posts

Helpful Links

Resources

Follow MECK Pre-K

Call or visit MECK Pre-K

Social Media Primer

Join our email list!

Text: MeckPreK To: 22828

Digital Assets

MECK Pre-K Application 2021/2022 Required Documentation

MECK Pre-K

Documents del niño/a Meckler

1. **Completed Application**
2. **Proof of Child's Date of Birth and Legal Name**
3. **Proof of Current Residency**
4. **Current Proof of Mecklenburg County Residency (minimum two documents)**
5. **Proof of All-Covered Household Income**
6. **Proof of Military Status (if applicable)**
7. **Proof of All-Covered Household Income**

Apply online at www.meckprek.org or submit your application and documents to MECK Pre-K at 704.366.1111

Application Cover Sheet

FREE Pre-K for children in Mecklenburg County!

MECK Pre-K

Prekind the niño/a Meckler

MECK Pre-K is FREE for 4-year-olds who live in Mecklenburg County. Please read below for more information, and visit www.meckprek.org for additional resources such as brochures, an online application, and more!

MECK Pre-K is continuing to serve our families during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have a number of ways to help you get ready for the school year. We have a number of ways to help you get ready for the school year. We have a number of ways to help you get ready for the school year.

What is MECK Pre-K? MECK Pre-K is a free, high-quality, full-day pre-kindergarten program for 4-year-olds who live in Mecklenburg County. It is designed to help children develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in school.

Why should children attend Pre-K-Enterpreses? Research shows that children who attend high-quality pre-kindergarten programs are more likely to succeed in school. They are more likely to be ready for school, have better social skills, and be more confident in their abilities.

For your convenience you can now APPLY ONLINE!

Fact Sheet

MECK Pre-K FAQs

MECK Pre-K

Preguntas Fre

What is MECK Pre-K?

Who is eligible for MECK Pre-K?

How do I apply for MECK Pre-K?

When should I apply for MECK Pre-K?

What if I have a question about MECK Pre-K?

How do I know if my child is eligible for MECK Pre-K?

What if I have a question about MECK Pre-K?

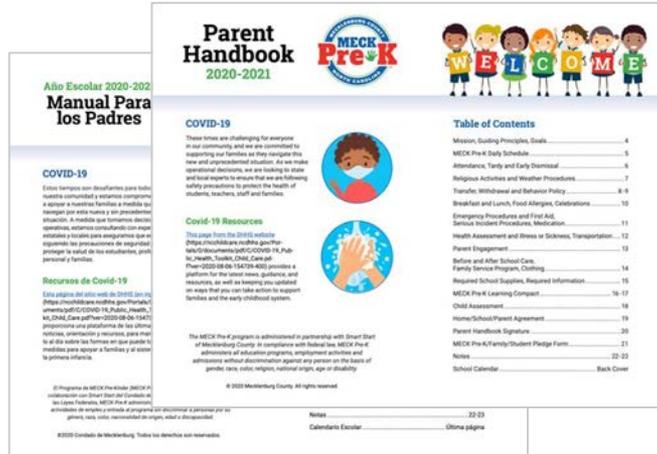
How do I know if my child is eligible for MECK Pre-K?

FAQs

Partner Toolkit



Bookmark



Parent Handbook



COVID-19 Safety



Promotional Graphics for Partner website and social media



Partnering with MECK Pre-K Presentation



All About MECK Pre-K Presentation

Stay Informed



Sign Up
For Our E-Newsletter!

Follow The
MECK Pre-K Affinity Groups

Join our email list!

Text: MeckPreK
To: 22828

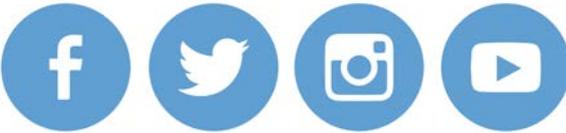


Teachers of MECK Pre-K



Familias Latinas para MECK Pre-K

Join Our
Social Media Networks



MECK Pre-K is Committed to Your Safety.

We are proud to protect your child and our staff.

You must cover your nose and mouth with a cloth covering.

Visit our COVID-19 Page to Learn More

MECK Pre-K is high-quality pre-kindergarten available to qualified children. It is County-funded and FREE of charge.

FREE Pre-K for eligible Mecklenburg County 4-year-olds!
MECK Pre-K is FREE, available to eligible children and taught by licensed teachers and assistants.
Click here for eligibility requirements

Find A MECK Pre-K Location Near You!
MECK Pre-K is offered through high-quality four- and five-star child care centers throughout Mecklenburg County.
See current MECK Pre-K locations!

Follow MECK Pre-K!
Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube to keep up with all the latest MECK Pre-K news and to show your support for MECK Pre-K in Mecklenburg County!

WELCOME

Visit Our
Website For
Updated
Information

Look for MECK Pre-K Events!



Drive-Thru Registration Event



Register for this event for a chance to win a Walmart Gift Card!



Click for more information and to register

Face masks are strongly encouraged. Event will take place rain or shine.



Hosted by
MECK Pre-K
Director
Trinisha Dean



All about MECK Pre-K

Where: facebook.com/MECKPreK

Click here for more details



Next Orientation Webinar for Families



Todo Sobre MECK Pre-K

Acompáñenos para un vistazo completo del proceso de la solicitud. Haga preguntas y obtenga respuestas. Si su niño tiene 4 años en o antes del 31 de agosto, ¡sintonícese! ¡Aprenda todo sobre MECK Pre-K!

Jueves 15 de abril 6:30 pm
Jueves 13 de mayo 6:30 pm
Jueves 10 de junio 6:30 pm

Únete en facebook.com/MECKPreK



Presentado por
Anabel Paniagua-Doyle
Alcance Comunitario de MECK Pre-K



smart start
Mecklenburg Partnership for Children



All About MECK Pre-K

Join us on the MECK Pre-K Facebook page for a complete walkthrough of the application process. Ask questions and get answers. If your child is 4 before August 31st, tune in! Learn everything about MECK Pre-K!

Tuesday, April 13 at 6:30pm
Tuesday, May 1 at 6:30pm
Tuesday, June 8 at 6:30pm

Join us on facebook.com/MECKPreK



Hosted by MECK Pre-K
Executive Director
Trinisha Dean



smart start
Mecklenburg Partnership for Children

Drive-Thru Events for Families



Planned Dates

- June 12th
- July 10th
- August 14th
- September 11th

Drive-Thru Registration Event

Register for this event for a chance to win a Walmart Gift Card!

Walmart*

Click for more information and to register

Face masks are strongly encouraged. Event will take place rain or shine.





Partnering for Success

Annabel Paniagua-Doyle

MECK Pre-K

Community Outreach Recruiter



Visit: [MeckPreK.org](https://www.MeckPreK.org)

Call: 704-943-9589 (Direct Line)

Email: CommunityPartnership@meckprek.org



Follow MECK Pre-K using @MeckPreK!

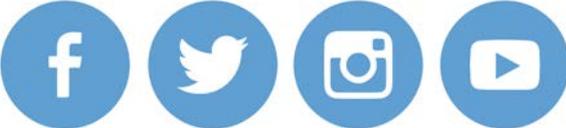


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Follow us on social media!





Thank you!