

# AmazIng Children Learning Center

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Director: Miss Rodnika Floyd  
Assistant Director: Miss Ashley Lewis  
Assistant Director: Miss Lillie Schnelle Hazel



## THE BEST KEPT SECRET PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Most parents want to be engaged in their child's learning, and many are able to establish and maintain ongoing and productive communication with teachers on a regular basis. Some families, however, must deal with challenging circumstances (e.g. financial difficulties, separation/divorce, health issues, language/cultural difference) that complicate their ability to reach out or respond to school personnel.

Collaborative problem-solving will require that parents, educators, specialists, and administrators work together to determine appropriate resources and supports as well as specific information-sharing practices that facilitate parental engagement.

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### Why Engage Parents?

An ongoing challenge for every educator is to develop and enhance skills that will offer students the best possible learning experiences and opportunities, in school, at home, and in community settings. It is therefore essential that every effort be made to ensure that ongoing and effective communication and partnerships be established and maintained with parents.

### Key Findings About Parent Involvement

Researchers at the University of Oxford found that children whose parents participated in the child development process "made significantly greater progress in their learning than children whose parents did not participate." These strides were found in children ages 3-5, and included progress in vocabulary, language comprehension, understanding of books and print and number concepts. In addition, these children also exhibited higher self-esteem in comparison to children of non-participating parents (Evangelou & Sylva, 2003).

A study published in the Journal of Instructional Psychology reported that improving parental involvement in the classroom can also improve schools in general (Machen, Wilson & Notar, 2005). The authors describe how everyone within the school community can benefit when parents and teachers work as partners.

### What Parents Need To Know

In order to effectively engage parents, it is important to know their specific questions and concerns with regard to their child's learning and transition from home or day care to other educational settings.

Understanding parents' concerns and being proactive in addressing them (or **circumventing potential problems**) is a positive way to engage parents and establish productive home-school relationships.

**ACLCL has dynamic activities and events planned for 2015 for the betterment of our relationships.**

### 2015 Events

- ◆ Black History Month Activities – Feb
- ◆ Spring Pictures – Mar/Apr
- ◆ Newport Aquarium – Summer
- ◆ Summer Program
- ◆ Back-to-School Bash
- ◆ Parent Activities & Events



*“It takes a Village  
to maintain and  
sustain a  
productive and  
diverse  
community.”*

## 2015 ACLC Holidays

- New Year’s Eve  
**(open until 5pm)**
- New Year’s Day  
(Closed)
- Martin Luther King  
Day **(Open until  
5pm)**
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Eve  
**(Open until 5pm)**
- Thanksgiving Day  
closed
- Day after  
Thanksgiving closed
- Christmas Eve  
**(Open until 5pm)**
- Christmas Day  
(Closed)
- Day after Christmas  
closed
- December 27  
Closed
- New Year’s Eve  
**(Open until 5pm)**
- January 1-3, 2016  
(Closed)

## Understanding ACLC: Parent Handbook

The *Parent Handbook* has been written to describe our program, philosophy, policies, and all the practical details that go into making each day as happy and successful as possible. Please carefully read this handbook and keep it for future reference. The staff at AmaZing Children Learning Center would be glad to address any of your questions or concerns. Once again, welcome!

The handbook has been updated for 2015; please stop in and pick up a copy. If you cannot stop by call or email us for an updated copy.

## Comments, Concerns, Questions ASSISITANT DIRECTORS

**Miss Ashley Lewis** serves as one of our Assistant Directors and handles day-to-day operations for the center. Miss Ashley has been with Amazing Children Learning Center since the beginning serving in the home daycare setting.

**Miss Lillie ‘Schnelle’ Hazel** serves as one of our Assistant Directors and handles day-to-day operations for the center. Miss Schnelle has been with AmaZing Children Learning Center for one year.

ACLC was started with Ms. Rodnika in a home childcare setting and has grown to the center we are in today. We understand the connection many of our parents have with the center and Ms, Rodnika. We are embarking on a new era in the history of ACLC including a staffing pattern structure to better serve our families and Ms. Rodnika’s expectations.

With that being said please understand that the staffing patterns created afforded our families with two dynamic and knowledgeable directors. Please understand that they or the support system to our front line staff members and teachers. They have the full faith from Ms. Rodnika that they are able to handle any and all situations. Even difficult situations they are encouraged to handle and they know to seek guidance in situations that require additional assistance.

There will be no direct calls to Ms. Rodnika regarding ACLC related day-to-day concerns, issues, and situations. These will be handled by Miss Ashley Lewis and Miss Lillie Hazel. If you would like to escalate an issue to the level of Ms. Rodnika please complete an escalation request via in person in office or through email.

## CACFP: Nutritious Meal

The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides nutritious meals to child care centers, day care homes, and adult care centers. It gives young children a chance to try many different types of foods and helps teach them how to choose foods that are good for them.

ACLC was selected out of all state participants and was featured in the CACFP State January 2015 Newsletter for our meals and preparation.

## State Child Care Sign In/Out Sheet

### Child Care Daily Attendance Record

On this form we have your child’s full name as listed on the DCC-97, Provider Billing Form with Child Care Council of Kentucky and the Department of Community Based Services – Division of Child Care. Next to your child’s name are seven categories detailing the days of the week and allowing for you to put a time in/out along with your initials. At the **end of the week** or last day of attendance for your child that week, please sign the signature box. **The form requires a “Signature of a Parent or Designated Person to Verify Accuracy of Attendance for the Week.”**

For our parents that receive child care payment assistance it is of extreme importance for you to complete this form daily and sign weekly. This is the only way we can receive our payment for child care services provided. Your child is allowed up to 5 excused absences and we are able to document them on this sheet and still receive payment. In addition this is great for parents and child care provider.

### Donations

- Toys
- Supplies
- Kleenex
- Wipes
- Cash
- Etc.

## Parent Night & Weekend Gift

Consecutive successful payment for child care services will afford a lucky family every quarter for a free night or weekend of child care services. We want to reward our families for supporting ACLC. Yes free child care every three months awarded to a faithful payment remitter.

## Parent Pay & Parent Co-Pay

Please understand the importance of your support. Parent Pay are weekly payments agreed upon between ACLC and our families for child care services, Child Care Contract Parent Co-Pay are weekly payments agreed upon between the Child Care Assistance Council and ACLC Families for child care services.

These payments are essential as they support the ACLC foundation in enabling us to pay salaries, provide food, provide supplies, and provide activities for children in care. These payments are eligible for a credit on your annual tax return.

## Creative Curriculum

### The Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers & Twos

- is based on 38 objectives for development and learning, which are fully aligned with the *School Readiness Goals for Infants and Toddlers* in Head Start and early learning standards for each state.
- helps teachers and caregivers implement developmentally appropriate practices and offer responsive daily routines and meaningful experiences that nurture learning and development.
- offers daily opportunities for teachers and caregivers to use assessment information to individualize routines and experiences for young children.
- provides built-in guidance for building the kind of meaningful partnerships with families that are an essential factor in how infants, toddlers and twos experience your program and how much they gain from it.
- offers complete support in classrooms where children are learning two languages

### The Creative Curriculum for Preschool

- is based on 38 objectives for development and learning, which are fully aligned with the *Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework* as well as early learning standards for every state.
- presents knowledge-building volumes and daily practice resources in tandem, giving every educator the “what,” “why” and “how” of early childhood education.
- offers daily opportunities to individualize instruction, helping teachers meet the needs of every type of learner.
- addresses all the important areas of learning, from social-emotional and math to technology and the arts, and incorporates them throughout every part of every day.
- offers daily, built-in opportunities for observation, helping teachers and administrators clearly see the strong relationship between curriculum and assessment.
- offers complete support for working with English- and dual-language learners, including detailed guidance that helps to build teachers’ knowledge about best practices.
- contains guidance for working with all learners, including advanced learners and children with disabilities.

# AmaZing Growth

AmaZing Children  
Learning Center  
517 W. Breckinridge St.  
Lexington, KY 40509

Phone:  
(502) 713-KIDS(5437)

Fax:  
(877) 442-1264

E-mail:  
[Amazingchildren@att.net](mailto:Amazingchildren@att.net)



Dear ACLC Family,

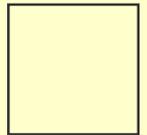
The AmaZing staff here at ACLC wishes to thank you for your partnership and relationship with us in ensuring your child develops appropriately. We are excited about the changes and growth we are experiencing here at ACLC and empowered through the continued growth. Please excuse our center enhancements as we are updating our center to reflect the growth. Our families are our Blessings and by the end of the month (December) we will be finished with our 1<sup>st</sup> phase of enhancements. Please let us know if you have any comments, concerns, or questions relating to our improvements.

Appreciating you,

*AmaZing Children Learning Center*

AmaZing Children Learning Center  
517 W. Breckinridge Street  
Louisville, KY 40203

We're on the Web!  
<http://www.amazingchildcare.com>



**February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 - New Center Operation Hours  
4:30am - 7:30pm (Monday - Sunday)**

**RECIPIENT NAME  
STREET ADDRESS  
ADDRESS 2  
CITY, ST ZIP CODE**