

Mission Statement

Empowering families to live the possibilities by nurturing children, family and community connections.



Applications are accepted year-round. New students may begin any time during the year when openings occur.

Prenatal to 3 Year Old Program

Early Head Start

- Home Based
- Center Based
- Family Child Care
- Parents as Teachers

3 to 5 Year Old Program

- Center Based Preschool
- Home Based Preschool

Early Childhood Connections

2501 East 13th Street
Hays, KS 67601
(785)623-2430

www.usd489connections.com



Early Childhood

Connections

Supporting **FAMILIES** from pregnancy to age 5
at no charge

EARLY CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS?

Early Childhood Connections serves people regardless of race, creed or color, including those with special needs. Prenatal to 5 Connections staff offers families support as they identify and meet their own goals, nurture the development of their children in the context of their family and culture, and advocate for communities that are supportive of children and families of all cultures.

Services include:

- Assist families to maximize children's overall development
- Health & dental services
- Family engagement opportunities
- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Services in the center or home



PRENATAL TO 3 YEARS OLD

The prenatal to 3 year old portion of the program is designed to assist families maximize children's overall development during the first three years of life.

Services include:

- Regular scheduled home visits
- Timely information on child development
- Ideas for age-appropriate activities
- Playgroup opportunities
- Routine screenings
- Monthly newsletters
- Group meetings
- Resource sharing

Home Based Options:

Parents as Teachers (PAT): Eligibility based on grant criteria & available in Hays USD 489 and Russell 407 school districts. Monthly or bi-monthly home visit.

Early Head Start (EHS): Income eligibility required and available in Ellis, Rooks, Rush and Russell counties. Weekly home visit.

Center Based Options:

Monday-Friday 7:30 to 5:30 and include monthly appointments.

Family Child Care EHS Option: Partnering community home providers and include monthly appointments.

3 TO 5 YEARS OLD

The 3 to 5 year old program is a preschool program for income eligible families or over income families who meet certain criteria. Children must be three years of age before August 31st. Services are provided in Ellis, Rooks, Rush, and Russell counties.

Center-Based Preschool Options:

Services include a minimum of 4 home visits, half day sessions (a.m./p.m.) or full day session.

Classrooms are available in:

Ellis: Monday - Thursday (a.m. or p.m.)

Hays: Monday - Thursday (full day)

Russell: Monday - Thursday (full day)

Home-Based Preschool Options:

Services are available and run 10 months a year. Services are provided through weekly 90 minute home visits and bi-monthly socializations.



All Connections services are provided at no cost to the family.