



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the child to staff ratio?

C.A.R.E. staffs at a minimum of 1 staff member to 10 or less children.

When does C.A.R.E. operate?

The program is offered to students throughout the school year on days when school is in session, except for the last day of school because it is a half day. The program operates Monday through Friday, and is open from 7 a.m. until the start of school and after school until 6 p.m. C.A.R.E. is not open on days when school is closed.

Is there a bus to take children to and from C.A.R.E.?

No. Parents are responsible for the transportation of their children to and from their C.A.R.E. site.

Is there C.A.R.E. on days off?

No, C.A.R.E. is not open when school there is no school.

Is there a discount if I have more than one child in C.A.R.E.?

Yes. A discount of approximately 10% is applied to the lower priced option for each additional child.

What does C.A.R.E. offer for kindergartners?

- Children who attend a morning Kindergarten class can sign up for the After Morning Kindergarten program. Childcare is provided from the time the morning Kindergarten class is dismissed until the 6 p.m. After the child's morning Kindergarten class ends, children are escorted to a School District 15 bus which takes them to either the Rolling Meadows or Palatine Park District Community Center. All Kindergarten students with the exception of students who attend Central Road, Kimball Hill and Willow Bend schools are taken back to their home C.A.R.E. sites for the After-School portion of the day (included in the After Morning Kindergarten program price). Children in the After Morning Kindergarten program who attend Central Road, Kimball Hill and Willow Bend will stay at the Rolling Meadows Community Center for the After-School portion of C.A.R.E. Busing to the offsite location by school district transportation is included in the fee.
- Children who attend an afternoon Kindergarten class can sign up for the After-School session of C.A.R.E. There is no Before-School C.A.R.E. option available for children who attend an afternoon kindergarten class.
- Children who attend full-day dual language Kindergarten (where available) can sign up for any of the Before-School and After-School sessions.

Why is the Morning Kindergarten Extended-Day Program run offsite?

C.A.R.E. shares a space with classrooms in the District and those rooms are not available during the school day as they are being used for instruction.

What if my child needs assistance to participate?

C.A.R.E. has a partnership with NWSRA (Northwest Special Recreation Association) to provide children with special needs with an aide if one is needed to successfully participate in the program or if our staff require additional training to best serve the needs of the child. Please indicate on the registration form if you would like to be considered for an aide or if there is any information that will help us offer the best accommodations for your child.

What kind of activities will my child do at C.A.R.E.?

The program is structured to be relaxed and recreational to counterbalance the educational activities during the school day. We offer quality childcare with a variety of structured and non-structured activities including: arts, crafts, sports, active games, outdoor play and games they can play with their peers, such as card or board games. Children are also given time to work on homework.

How will my child find C.A.R.E. after school?

On your child's first day at C.A.R.E. a school or C.A.R.E. staff member will walk him/her to the C.A.R.E. room. Once the children are comfortable they may come on their own. For the Morning Kindergarten Extended-Day Program, they will be escorted to the bus and taken off the bus by staff all year.

Can my child attend after school activities?

Yes. We require a parent to fill out an Extracurricular Activity Form authorizing C.A.R.E. to release your child to his/her activity. You may also direct C.A.R.E. to accept your child back after the activity.

What if my child requires medication while they are at C.A.R.E.?

Parents must fill out the Medication and Health Care Treatment Authorization Form and the Hold Harmless and Indemnity Commitment Emergency Medication Authorization Form. Forms are available at the C.A.R.E. site, from the school nurse and on the School District website. These forms allow our staff to administer the medication during C.A.R.E. hours.

What if I cannot arrive by 6 pm?

Contact the Site Director at their direct C.A.R.E. number and let them know that you are running late. If you are going to be more than 15 minutes late we ask that you contact someone on your emergency pick-up list to pick up your child in your place. Due to the fact that we pay staff for additional time worked, a late fee is charged for each occurrence no matter the reason. A child may be dropped from the program after 3 late pick-ups.

Do I have to re-register for next year?

Yes. If you are currently in the C.A.R.E. Program, you will be invited to pre-register for the following year during our Priority Registration Dates. If you do not re-register during that time, you may lose your spot. Once registration is open to the public, spots will not be held unless the parent has re-enrolled their child by the priority registration deadline date.

Is C.A.R.E. available if school is closed to due inclement weather?

No. If the schools have been closed, C.A.R.E. is also closed.

What about delayed start days?

If the school calls for a delayed start day, C.A.R.E. will not operate in the morning but will be open for its regular afternoon hours. The Morning Kindergarten Extended-Day Program will be canceled on delayed start days.

Is homework assistance available?

Because of the number of children who require assistance during homework time, the staff members are unable to check each child's homework for accuracy or provide the type of one-on-one homework help that is available from a private tutor.

What are my chances of getting in the program if I end up on a wait list?

If your child is placed on a wait list for C.A.R.E. the Park District will notify you if a spot becomes available if someone drops from the program at your child's C.A.R.E. site. It is strongly recommended that you enroll your child in alternate child care in the community as spots may not become available during the school year.

Do I get reimbursed for snow days?

No. Snow days will be made up at the end of the school year at no additional charge to the parents.

Are any meals provided?

A light snack is provided in the After-School C.A.R.E. session of the Program. Children participating in the Morning Kindergarten Extended-Day Program must bring a lunch each day.