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September 5, 2025



Attention VPK & SR Providers!
Please read the **NEW** and updated information below regarding **VPK and SR program providers!** For general questions regarding this information, please contact our Provider Relations Department at (941) 757-2900 ext. 2300.

[Learn More](#)

Zoning & Child Care Providers
Manatee County Government seeks to understand how local zoning regulations affect child care providers. They want to hear about any challenges you've faced so they can identify opportunities to improve policies and support your work. Your voice matters! Please complete the survey below.



Early Learning Coalition
OF MANATEE COUNTY

Provider Update Meetings



Monthly Provider Update Meeting
Please join us in person or virtually on **September 9th at 1:00 pm** and connect with our Provider Quality Team for an overview of CLASS, review frequently asked questions, network, collaborate, and stay informed on important updates that support your work with children and families.

[Learn More](#)

Supporting Strong Starts
Joins us for breakfast, engage with peers, learn practical strategies for teaching social-emotional learning and executive functioning skills, and leave with actionable insights to help support the children and families you serve. **Register by September 19th!**

[Learn More](#)



Breakfast With a Purpose:
Supporting Strong Starts
Through Social Emotional Learning



Improving Teacher-Child Interactions

Providers, are you are interested in learning new techniques and talk strategies to help improve student's language, literacy, social-emotional development? Click on the link below to learn more about LENA Grow and connect with a program specialist!

[Learn More](#)

LENA GROW™



Build the Habit of Good Attendance

Missing 10% of preschool (one or two days every few weeks) can make it harder for your child to develop early reading skills and be prepared for kindergarten and first grade. Make the most of preschool by encouraging your child to attend on time every day!

[Learn More](#)

SEPTEMBER 2025
SEPTIEMBRE

Help Your Child Succeed In Preschool: Build the Habit of Good Attendance.

Showing up on time every day is important to your child's success and learning from preschool forward. Missing 10% of preschool (one or two days every few weeks) can make it harder for your child to develop early reading skills and be prepared for kindergarten and first grade. The routines your child develops in preschool will continue throughout school, and you can make the most of preschool by encouraging your child to attend every day! Your enthusiasm is a BIG boost to your child's success! Talk about it, read about it, sing about it - make it an adventure!



Ayude a su hijo a tener éxito en el preescolar: desarrolle el hábito de la buena asistencia.

Llegar a tiempo todos los días es importante para el éxito y el aprendizaje de su hijo desde el preescolar en adelante. Faltar el 10% del preescolar (uno o dos días cada pocas semanas) puede hacer que a su hijo le resulte más difícil desarrollar habilidades de lectura temprana y estar preparado para el jardín de infantes y el primer grado. Las rutinas que su hijo desarrolla en el preescolar continuarán durante toda la escuela y usted puede aprovechar al máximo el preescolar animándolo a asistir todos los días. ¡Su entusiasmo es un GRAN impulso para el éxito de su hijo! Hable sobre ello, lee sobre ello, canta sobre ello, ¡convértelo en una aventura!





Earn Your FCCPC Credential for FREE!

Are you an early childhood center owner, director, administrator, or teacher in Florida? CCEI offers an amazing opportunity to grow as a child care educator while earning your FCCPC credential through the TEACH Early Childhood Scholarship Program at no cost to you!

[Learn More](#)

Teachstone Blog Digest

[Taking CLASS Interactions Outdoors](#)
[InterAct CLASS Summit 2026](#)
[CLASS 2nd Edition Infant-Toddler Suite](#)
[Build Strong Family Partnerships](#)

[Read More](#)



UPCOMING TRAININGS

TUESDAY
SEPT 16

Tuesday Tune-Up Session

Do you have questions about challenging behavior and early childhood development? **RSVP in advance** to join us via Zoom for an open forum to connect with our Child Development Team. [Learn More](#)

TUESDAY
SEPT 30

Sleep Baby Safely

Learn how you can help prevent infant deaths from unsafe sleep environments. Review Manatee County data and key safety tips, and discuss real-life scenarios to help you support your co-workers and families. [Register](#)

OPEN
SEPT 2025

Handle With Care Training

'Handle with Care' is an initiative aimed at helping children succeed in school by alerting school staff with a simple notice when a student experiences a traumatic event involving law enforcement or Child Protection Services (CPS). [Register](#)





ASSESSING CHILD CARE IN MANATEE COUNTY

The Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County (ELC) is asking for your assistance to complete a short survey addressing the issue of attainable and affordable child care in Manatee County. Your voice matters, please click the link below and provide us with your feedback!

VPK CHILD CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

The Division of Early Learning (DEL) requires us to collect the Certificates of Eligibility (COE) **Please upload all COEs by September 30, 2025, into your Document Library. Please upload into the folder titled, "VPK Enrollment Certificates 2025-26"**.

VPK FAST PROGRESS MONITORING

Providers, please review the VPK Fast Progress Monitoring schedule below for the 2025-2026 school year. If you have questions regarding Progress Monitoring, please contact the Provider Relations team at providerrelations@elc-manatee.org or call (941) 757-2913.



Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Star Early Literacy VPK Program Test Administration Schedule

School-Year VPK Program

Progress Monitoring (PM) Period	Traditional Program 83 or more instructional days	Non-Traditional Program 82 or fewer instructional days
PM1	The <u>first 30 instructional days</u> of the VPK class schedule beginning with the first VPK instructional day.	The <u>first 10 instructional days</u> of the VPK class schedule beginning with the first VPK instructional day.
PM2	The period of time in a VPK class schedule where <u>at least 40% and no more than 60% of a program's instructional hours</u> have been completed.	
PM3	The <u>last 30 instructional days</u> of the VPK class schedule ending on the last VPK instructional day.	The <u>last 10 instructional days</u> of the VPK class schedule ending on the last VPK instructional day.

T2K BREAKFAST WITH A PURPOSE 2025

Supporting Strong Starts Through Social Emotional Learning
Saturday, October 4, 2025
Manatee Technical College
6305 FL-70, Bradenton, FL 34203
Doors Open at 7:30am

Join us for a meaningful morning of connection and collaboration at Breakfast with a Purpose, hosted by the Early Learning Taskforce. This engaging event will open with a welcome message from the Taskforce, highlighting our shared commitment to kindergarten readiness and whole-child development.

Educators will participate in engaging breakout sessions focused on practical strategies for teaching social-emotional learning and executive functioning skills in early childhood classrooms. From fostering regulation and empathy to supporting attention and problem-solving, this event will equip educators with tools to help every child build a strong foundation for school and life success.

Enjoy breakfast, engage with peers, and leave with actionable insights to support the children and families you serve.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF VPK!

**Were you a 2005 VPK Student Graduate, VPK Teacher or Child Care Director?
We want to hear from you!**

In celebration of 20 years of VPK, the ELC and Division of Early Learning are looking for photos of original VPK students, teachers, and directors from 2005, along with present-day photos. Send us your story!

Please include:

- Names and roles (student, teacher, director, etc.)
- Where they attended or taught VPK
- Which ELC is represented
- A brief update on their current occupation or position

Share this info and image files in PNG format to: communications@elc-manatee.org.

Please note that information and photos shared may be published in print and/or digital materials through the ELC of Manatee County and the Division of Early Learning.

MY FLORIDA SCHOOLS PORTAL

The Florida Department of Education has launched the [My Florida Schools Portal](#), a new resource designed to help families explore and connect with early learning and education options that best meet their child's needs. The portal includes listings for early learning providers, traditional public schools, public charter schools, and private schools.

Please create or update your profile to ensure families have accurate and helpful information when making important decisions about their child's education. This is a valuable opportunity for free publicity and increased visibility to families in your area.

To get started, visit <https://onboarding.wonderschool.com/> and create an account.

If you have any questions or encounter issues, please email MyFloridaSchools@fldoe.org for support.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Florida's families.



If you just opted in, you're consenting to receive marketing emails from: Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc., 600 8th Avenue West, Suite 100, , Palmetto, FL 34221. You can revoke your consent to receive emails at any time by using the [SafeUnsubscribe®](#) link, found at the bottom of every email. [Emails are serviced by Constant Contact](#)