

Dual Language Learners Procedure

Policy: Staff will assist families with children who speak a language other than English in the home and are Dual Language Learners (DLL) in understanding the program to the greatest ability possible, including but not limited to familiarity with ethnic backgrounds and heritages and providing the opportunity to serve and effectively communicate with the family.

Performance Standard 1302.31 Teaching and the Learning Environment

Procedure:

- Staff, consultants, and volunteers will respect and promote the unique identity of each child and family, and refrain from stereotyping on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, or disability
- The family will provide information to the Family Advocate at enrollment that will assist the agency in providing services to both the family and child. ♣
- The family may also choose to bring a support person who offers translation services. If needed, the family advocate will secure translation services.
- The classrooms will provide equipment and materials that are supportive of the cultural and ethnic backgrounds of children in the classroom. Classroom labeling will be both in English as well as the child's native language.
- The classroom teacher and family advocate will seek out community resources allowing for additional support in the child's native language.
- Documents sent home to parents will be provided in English as well as the families native language to the fullest extent possible.
- A DLL packet with general information regarding the acquisition of the English language as well as available resources accessible to staff will be provided to the education staff and Family Advocate ♣ The Head Start Performance Standards and Head Start Act in reference to Language, Culture, and Diversity will also be included in the packet