

Infant Program Schedule

Infants are on their own individual schedules as indicated on the provided Intake Form by the parents.

Infant caregivers are required to follow the individual schedule for: feeding, napping, diapering, etc. As changes occur in the infant's schedule, parents are required to provide those changes in writing on an Intake Update form. This update is required every 2-3 months.

Each infant will have several opportunities daily for individual attention of the childcare providers. When feeding and diapering, for instance, caregivers use this one-on-one time as an opportunity to interact with the infant. Singing, talking, signing, and playing with the infants are what we do best.

A Developmental Curriculum is available to assist staff in identifying activities that are age appropriate for infants. Our Infant/Toddler Curriculum, "POCET" is used so we can provide detailed activities appropriate for each stage of an infant's developmental levels. Lesson plans are made to promote each child's unique abilities. Bright Beginnings uses assessments and individual profiles of each child in order to provide them with the developmental stimulation they need.

"Baby Signs"

"Baby, what are you thinking?" Have you ever looked into those beautiful eyes and wondered what was going on in that little head? Babies are brilliant! Babies are much smarter than many people realize. They develop a basic understanding of language and their environment surprisingly early. Months before they can speak, babies are intricately aware of their surroundings. They just haven't developed the complex vocal control necessary to form spoken words and verbally express this awareness. But babies have good hand control, even at this early age, and can make simple gestures. This dexterity allows them to start communicating via sign language as young as six months old.

Bright Beginnings uses "Baby Sign Language" to communicate with your infant/toddler. We can share their joys during a happy moment and ease their distress during the difficult moments.

Baby Sign Language serves as a bonding activity, helping you and your baby develop a closer connection. In addition to the communication and bonding advantages, there are developmental benefits. Studies show that babies who learn sign language typically speak earlier, have larger vocabularies, and attain better educational outcomes.

We will start with **milk**, **more**, **eat**, **all done**, **up**, and **mom/dad** which are among the simplest to make. We'll work with these signs for at least a month or until the infant/toddler's start making the signs before adding other signs. Then we will continue using the first few and gradually add more signs.

We use a unique program "Baby Sign Language" to teach staff how, when and why to implement the signs according to each child's developmental stages.

You will receive a booklet of the signs we are using along with pictures showing how to sign. For more information regarding Baby Sign Language you can borrow our Comprehensive Teaching Guide.