

Transylvania County NC Pre-K Limited English Policy FY 2023-2024

Policy Goal:

The goal of this policy is to provide a procedure and support system for children and families with languages other than English to assure high-quality service and full access to the NC Pre-Kindergarten Program in Transylvania County.

To accomplish this goal, our service provider staff will recognize bilingualism and biliteracy as strength and support the development of the home language for dual language learners.

In practice, this means:

- Providing culturally and linguistic appropriate materials within the classroom setting;
- Supporting child's home language in the home (encouraging families at enrollment, during home visits, family communication);
- Using evidence-based strategies to support dual language learners within the classroom.

Opportunities are provided to children and families to participate in family literacy services by:

a) Increasing family access to materials, services, and activities essential to family literacy development. Information is provided regarding the services available at the local public libraries in each county. Individual centers may have lending libraries for their families. Community volunteers from various organizations volunteer in classrooms throughout the service area to increase one-on-one reading experiences for enrolled children.

b) Assisting parents as adult learners to recognize and address their own literacy. Goals that are appropriate to the individual literacy needs of each family are established. Referrals to adult literacy programs are made when appropriate.

Parents are supported and encouraged to influence the character and goals of community services to make the services more responsive to their interests and needs. Specific ways for parents to influence community services include, but are not limited to:

- Receiving information about the roles and functions of policy groups early in the program year;
- Participating in parent-teacher organizations; and
- Becoming involved in groups and organizations that support the culture of the family and community.

All printed items such as recruitment materials, applications, enrollment paperwork and parent engagement materials are available in both English and Spanish and other languages, as requested.