



OneSafePlace



Clayton Child Development Center at One Safe Place

As a founding partner in One Safe Place, Clayton is proud to provide childcare services through the Clayton Child Development Center at One Safe Place. One Safe Place is a collaboration of multiple partner agencies working together, under one roof, providing coordinated services to victims of domestic violence.

Reaching out for help can be terrifying for victims of domestic violence and many do not because of the hurdles they may face in seeking assistance. By providing free secure childcare onsite, we are removing one barrier for victims so they can meet with counselors and law enforcement or receive other services. Child care is also provided for victim's offsite meetings such as court appearances and medical appointments. Our staff is trained to work with young children who have experienced violence in their homes and they are committed to providing a supportive environment for children during this stressful time in their lives.

Clayton also offers full-day preschool for One Safe Place partners and the local community. Many of the children enrolled in our preschool come from the surrounding neighborhoods where high quality, low cost childcare can be difficult to find. In addition to being a fully licensed preschool, the Clayton Child Development Center is also Texas Rising Star certified by the Texas Workforce Commission. This achievement means that our preschool meets higher quality standards than many other child care programs across Texas. According to Texas Rising Star, numerous research studies have shown that at-risk children who attend higher quality child care programs are more prepared for starting kindergarten than children who do not attend quality child care programs. We are committed to this high quality of child care and use the respected Frog Street Curriculum in all classes, infant through pre-k, to ensure our students are kindergarten ready.

914

CHILDREN SERVED WITH DROP-IN CARE

56

CHILDREN SERVED IN FULL-TIME PROGRAM

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) INITIATIVE “PREPARING CHILDREN FOR GREAT LIVES”

WHY IS CLAYTON CENTERING ALL OF OUR PROGRAMS ON SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING?

In spring 2016, Clayton’s leadership met with area teachers, principals, parents and administrators from Tarrant County schools. We asked them to share what they saw as the most significant contribution an after-school program could make for our students and schools. They told us that our children are struggling with the critical social and emotional skills they need to succeed academically, personally and in their future careers.

WHAT MAKES CLAYTON CONFIDENT THAT SEL IN AFTER-SCHOOL WILL MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE FOR KIDS?

We did our research and found lots of evidence that there will be significant benefits to teaching SEL skills to young children. With 400-700 hours of programming at each school annually, Clayton’s after-school programs are a golden opportunity to provide rich social and emotional learning opportunities to the children we serve. We offer children the chance to develop social and emotional skills in a casual, supportive setting where they can be applied and practiced with other children and caring adults.

By integrating SEL into our academic enrichment programming, Clayton will increase our program’s positive effect on the larger school climate as well as help individual students achieve academic and personal success.

INTENDED RESULTS

Clayton expects our SEL Initiative to demonstrate measurable student growth in the five competency clusters identified by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the nation’s leading SEL advancement organization. These are:

- **Self-awareness:** *Identify feelings and needs, identify strengths in self and others, awareness of relationships between feelings, thoughts and behaviors, identify judgement and bias*
- **Social awareness:** *Empathy, reflective listening, awareness of strengths*
- **Relationship skills:** *Resolving conflict, working cooperatively, communication skills, building diverse relationships*
- **Responsible decision-making:** *Making constructive and safe choices, evaluation consequences, consideration of others*
- **Self-management:** *Resilience, perseverance, regulating emotions, healthy boundaries, setting goals*

Researchers tell us that students receiving quality SEL instruction had:

- **Better academic performance:** *achievement scores **11-13% higher** than students who did not receive SEL instruction*
- **Improved attitudes and behaviors:** *greater motivation to learn, deeper commitment to school, increased time devoted to schoolwork, better classroom behavior*
- **Fewer negative behaviors:** *decreased disruptive class behavior, noncompliance, aggression, delinquent acts, and disciplinary referrals*
- **Reduced emotional distress:** *fewer reports of student depression, anxiety, stress, and social withdrawal*

SEL skills prepare students for professional success as well. The business community is increasingly looking for employees with “soft” or “executive” skills – terminology for the social and emotional skills needed to:

- *communicate effectively with others*
- *work as a member of a team*
- *effectively manage themselves and others*
- *think creatively and critically to solve problems and adapt new ideas*

Clayton is committed to helping children live great lives and the sooner our children and youth begin practicing these skills, the more proficient they will be when they enter the workforce and become active adult members of our communities.

For more information on Social & Emotional Learning at Clayton, visit:

ClaytonYouth.org/SEL