

# LI HEAD START

Welcome Edition • Program Year 2007-2008

## WHAT IS "DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICE"?

You probably have noticed that our classroom has a lot a bustle and noise, that children are up doing things, talking, playing, and exploring. Such a classroom environment differs from the old grade-school images of a teacher doing a lot of talking at a blackboard while children sit and listen quietly at their desks.

Research and experience tells us that to be effective with young children, teaching practices need to be "developmentally appropriate." What this means is imply that educators need to think first about what young children are like and then create an environment and experiences that are in tune with children's characteristics.

Early childhood, after all, is a time of life quite different from

adulthood, and even from the later school years. Children 3-6 learn far better through direct interactive experiences than through just listening to someone talk. They learn extraordinary amounts through play and exploration. And the younger children are, the more what they learn needs to be relevant and interesting on the day they learn it, not just in the context of some future learning.

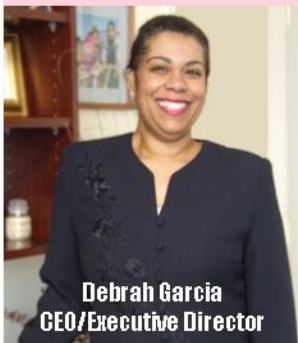
Based on such knowledge about what children of this age are like, we design our program to fit them. It works a lot better than trying to redesign children!

A developmentally appropriate program like ours is age-appropriate. But that's not all. To make the program a good place for every child, we gear our classroom environment and activities to the communities and the families involved. We're eager to learn as much as we can about each child's family, cultural background, past experience, and current circumstances. With this

knowledge we work to create a program that fits the children and the families we serve.



## DEAR PARENTS & GUARDIANS,



Debrah Garcia  
CEO/Executive Director

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Long Island Head Start. We always strive to make the Head Start experience the most positive experience possible by offering education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to income eligible children and their families. The mission of L.I. Child and Family Development Services Inc. is to provide a comprehensive learning environment to children respectful of their cultures and to assist families in reaching self-sufficiency through the combined efforts of parents, community and staff.

As a parent you are the most important educator in your child's life. Parents also play a critical role in the agency. Each center holds regular monthly local parent committee meetings. The local parent committee is also responsible to elect representatives for the agency wide Policy Council. Centers may elect parents to join the Policy Council and take a part in the decision making, along with the Board of Directors, agency administrators and supervisors. We encourage you to become more involved in your children's lives by volunteering at your local center level. Attend meetings and get involved in the decision making process to have a positive effect throughout the Head Start program.

We look forward to a productive year for you and your family. Always remember, the best beginning is a Head Start!

Sincerely, *Debrah Garcia*

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Debrah Garcia

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Thalia Anthony  
 Director of Human Resources

Deborah Elcik  
 Director of Facilities

Annette Harris  
 Center Operations Supervisor

Paul M. Adams  
 Management Affairs Assistant

**2007-2008 AGENCY CALENDAR**

**SEPTEMBER '07**

M	T	W	Th	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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**OCTOBER '07**

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**NOVEMBER '07**

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**DECEMBER '07**

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**JANUARY '08**

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**FEBRUARY '08**

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**MARCH '08**

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**APRIL '08**

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**MAY '08**

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**JUNE '08**

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**JULY '08**

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28	29	30	31			

**AUGUST '08**

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

■ Agency Holidays    ■ Recess for Children

**SEPTEMBER**  
 Center Parent Elections  
 3/Labor Day Holiday  
 10/Classes Begin  
 20/Full Policy Council Meeting

**OCTOBER**  
 Head Start Awareness Month  
 8/Columbus Day Holiday  
 10/PAVE Trainings Begins  
 18/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 23/Male Involvement Meeting

**NOVEMBER**  
 6/Election Day Holiday  
 12/Veterans Day Holiday  
 15/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 22&23/Thanksgiving Holiday

**DECEMBER**  
 13/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 Dec 22 - Jan 2/Winter Recess  
 24/Christmas Eve Holiday  
 25/Christmas Day Holiday

**JANUARY**  
 1/New Year's Day Holiday  
 17/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 21/Martin Luther King Jr's Day Holiday

**FEBRUARY**  
 18/President's Day Holiday  
 18-25/Mid-Winter Recess  
 21/Full Policy Council Meeting

**MARCH**  
 Multicultural Awareness Month  
 20/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 21/Good Friday Holiday

**APRIL**  
 17/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 21-28/Spring Recess

**MAY**  
 15/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 21/Male Involvement Meeting  
 26/Memorial Day Holiday

**JUNE**  
 Moving Up Celebrations  
 19/Full Policy Council Meeting  
 20/Last Day of Classes  
 26/Full Policy Council Meeting

**JULY**  
 4/Independence Day Holiday

**August**  
 21/Full Policy Council Meeting

\*This calendar is subject to change.

**EMERGENCY CLOSING INFORMATION**

In case of inclement weather, check News 12 Long Island (Channel 12), WALK 1370 AM & 97.5 FM, and WBLI 106.1 FM for school closing information.

# AGENCY DIRECTORY

## CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION (631) 758-5200:

Center Operations.....	Annette Harris, Supervisor, X134
Quality Assurance & Program Services.....	Diane MacCallum, Director, X120
Child Development/Transition.....	Diane Eppolito, Supervisor, X112
Education.....	Karen Peterson, Manager, X128
Disabilities Services/Mental Health.....	Eileen Kiker, Specialist, X125
Family/Community Partnership.....	Egda Gonzalez, Manager, X148
Health.....	Diane Eppolito, Supervisor, X112
Nutrition.....	Cynthia Rodriguez, Specialist, X141
Parent & Volunteer Resources.....	Mattie Angus, Coordinator, X135
Human Resources.....	Thalia Anthony, Director, X114
Facilities.....	Deborah Elcik, Director, X190

## CENTERS

Amityville Head Start.....	48 Cedar Road, Amityville, NY 11701 (631) 842-8484
Bay Area Head Start.....	161 Margin Drive, Shirley, NY 11967 (631) 395-4853
Bay Shore Head Start.....	1860 Union Boulevard, Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 666-4985
Bellport Head Start.....	189 North Dunton Avenue, East Patchogue, NY 11772 (631) 286-0579
Brentwood Head Start I.....	177 Wicks Road, Brentwood, NY 11717 (631) 951-3043
Brentwood Head Start II.....	203 Cedar Road, East Northport, NY 11731 (631) 368-0793
Bridgehampton Head Start.....	551 Sag Harbor Turnpike, Bridgehampton, NY 11932 (631) 537-2514
Central Brookhaven Head Start.....	2884 Route 112, Medford, NY 11763 (631) 732-7100
Central Islip Head Start.....	NY Tech, 300 Carleton Avenue, Central Islip, NY 11722 (631) 348-1816
Huntington Head Start I.....	51 Wheeler Road, Central Islip, NY 11722 (631) 851-7938
Huntington Head Start II (DDI)....	25 Little Plains Road, Huntington, NY 11743 (631) 851-7938
Islip Head Start (ACLD).....	1428 Fifth Avenue, Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 951-3043
North Fork Head Start.....	1850 Main Bayview Road, Southold, NY 11971 (631) 765-5684
Patchogue Head Start.....	20 Church Street, Patchogue, NY 11772 (631) 654-5010
Riverhead Head Start.....	877 East Main Street, Ste. 109, Riverhead, NY 11901 (631) 953-6945
Riverside Head Start.....	77 Goodridge Avenue, Riverhead, NY 11901 (631) 369-8232
Southampton Head Start.....	271 Flanders Road, Riverhead, NY 11901 (631) 369-7730
Wyandanch Head Start.....	350 Long Island Avenue, Wyandanch, NY 11798 (631) 643-5453
Central Brook Early Head Start.....	2884 Route 112, Medford, NY 11763 (631) 345-2442
Islip Early Head Start.....	1377 Fifth Avenue, Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 968-1960
Patchogue Early Head Start.....	10 Church Street, Patchogue, NY 11772 (631) 207-5712

# BRIDGING HOME



## AND SCHOOL

We all know that if a bridge is not structurally sound, it will eventually collapse. Likewise, if relationships are not built on a sturdy foundation, they too will fall.

By willingly beginning the home/school relationship with an open, sharing approach, we can build trust. Then, when issues arise we can talk about them without hesitation.

All of us here try to do our best to keep you informed. We post pertinent information on bulletin boards as well as include it in the newsletter. We send home other information with your child. We also want to talk with each of you often.

Feel welcome to visit the classroom at any time. Come eat lunch with us. Drop by and tell us a story or show us something special. Or just take a break, have a seat, and enjoy the children.

Clearly, ongoing interaction and support from both families and staff make the connection between home and school a two-way street. You can help by sharing information about your child with us. Especially during any crisis or period of change, when children are under stress and act or react differently, please keep us informed. Obvious times include a change in jobs, a move to a new house, or an illness or death in the family, but they also could involve the child experiencing nightmares, making changes in eating habits, and stopping or starting medication. Of course, anything you share with a member of our staff will be held in confidence.

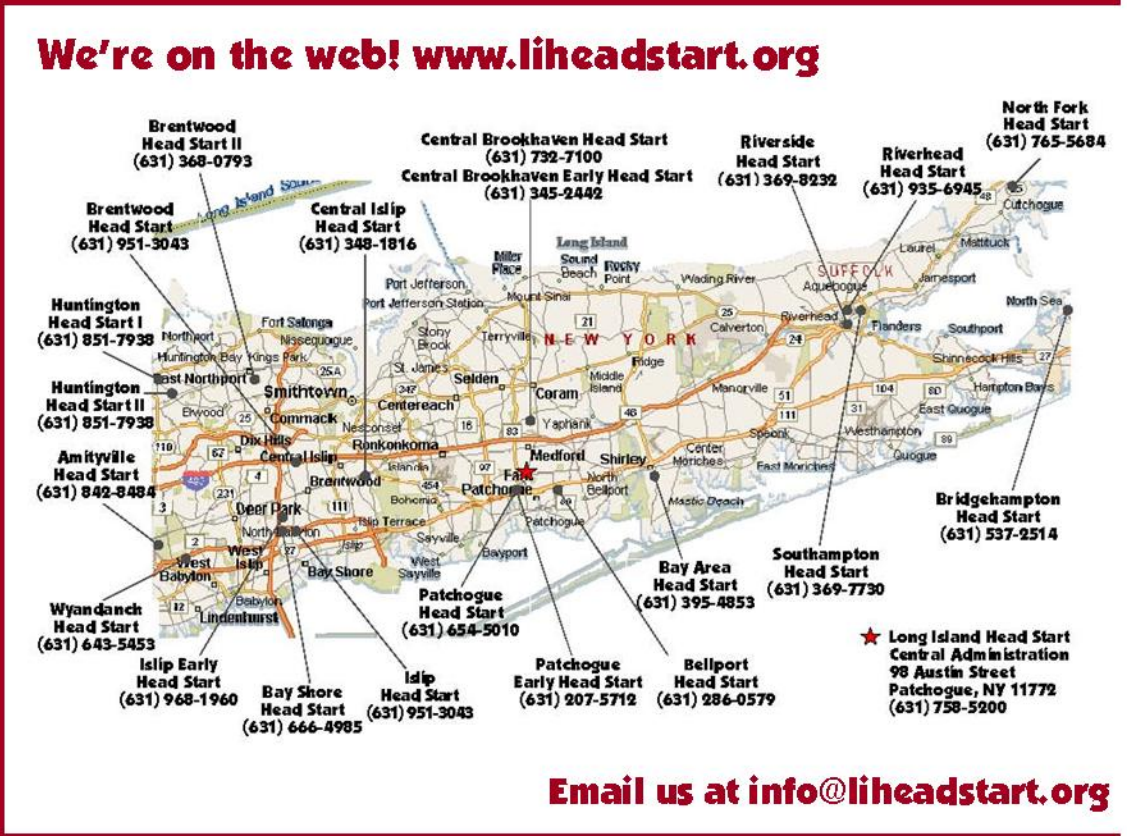
In turn, we'll alert you to anything out of the ordinary that we might notice in you child here at the center. Only by sharing information can we build a bridge strong enough to support our children.



**We're on the web! [www.liheadstart.org](http://www.liheadstart.org)**

-  **FREE Child Care Education**
-  **Daycare Licensed Centers**
-  **Includes Nutritious Meals**
-  **Full Day & Part Day Sessions**
-  **Infant, Toddler, And Expectant Mothers Services\***
-  **Extended Day Services\***

\*Available At Select Sites



**Email us at [info@liheadstart.org](mailto:info@liheadstart.org)**

**LONG ISLAND HEAD START**  
L.I. Child and Family Development Services, Inc.  
98 Austin Street, Patchogue, NY 11772  
(631) 758-5200 • [www.liheadstart.org](http://www.liheadstart.org)

*The Best Beginning is a Head Start!*



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